

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

THE POLICE Which side of the picket line?

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Can you
still
swallow
the
Con-
Trick
after
this?



Perhaps you're one of the three people left in your street who can still afford it. If so, you'll know that the price of coffee has already gone up by at least two and a half times this year.

Twelve months ago, a one and a half pound catering size tin of instant coffee cost £2.50. Last weekend it cost £6.13. In smaller size tins, the increases will have been even more monstrous.

And the indications are that in the next six months the price will go up another 50 per cent!

Two weeks ago a quarter of tea cost 16p. By last weekend it had gone up to 21p or even 25p. More increases are in the pipeline, taking the price to 57p a quarter in the months ahead. This will ensure that tea becomes a 'luxury' for working class people. A 'luxury' like beef, bacon, potatoes and cheese...

THIS robbery began a few years ago.

The world economic crisis meant that the big firms and traders and farmers abandoned all restraint.

The world commodity market went haywire, and prices began to rise rapidly.

Coffee prices started to go through the roof when the Brazilian crop failed. Under this system of society, a crop failure in one corner of the world means stock and commodity markets maximising the danger instead of minimising it.

Growers, shippers, world-wide trading and

commodity firms, brokers, speculators and parasites of every kind move in for the kill. They buy up the coffee crop for August at such and such a price, and for September at still another.

They call this speculating in futures. Their activities ensure that price rises turn into a price explosion.

And not just for coffee. Their operations take in every continent and every commodity we need. So after coffee they turn to tea.

Harold Wilson and then Jim Callaghan told us high wages caused all this inflation. They

told us that their Social Contract would put a stop to it. Now we can see what it has put a stop to. It's put a stop to working class people drinking tea and coffee.

The Social Contract is, as growing numbers of working class people are finding, a piece of bare-faced robbery. It is a cynical Con-Trick.

That's why Socialist Worker says £15 now for every worker and pensioner. In the circumstances, the demand is modest.

□ The case against the Social Con-Trick—Pages 8 & 9.

Leyland
bribery:
They all
do it...

THE SUNDAY TIMES hit the nail on the head last Sunday with its comment on the Leyland bribes scandal:

'The unpublished fact remains that some of Britain's most prestigious companies regularly pay bribes

'If the British government or parliament really starts to inquire into the ramifications of the British Leyland affair, the results could rival the Lockheed-Northrop scandal.'

Any serious inquiry will prove not only that Leyland paid bribes and that the Bank of England sanctioned them. It will prove that private enterprise is and has long been up to its neck in corruption.

This is why no serious inquiry is likely to take place. For British businessmen, like businessmen throughout the world, are corrupt.

Big companies regularly buy people, councils, even entire countries. It's a way of planning ahead, getting round the competition whose merits you praise in public

The purpose is always the same—the maximisation of profit, the enrichment of the

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LEYLAND WORKERS
SPEAK OUT

THE HYPOCRISY OF
THE DAILY MAIL

few at the expense of the many.

Former Tory prime minister Ted Heath called it 'the unacceptable face of capitalism'. He promised firm action when he stumbled across it in the shape of Lonrho more than four years ago.

The 'firm action' went no further than a Department of Trade report on the company.

It showed that Lonrho operated a giant slush fund through boss man Tiny Rowland's personal bank account.

It showed that director after director, like Lord Duncan Sandys, former Tory minister, was having his salary paid in the Cayman Islands to avoid tax.

Frightening

Since publication of the report, there has been silence from Fleet Street, silence from the Department of Trade and Industry, and silence from the Metropolitan Police

Why? Because the Lonrho scandal proved something frightening to those with wealth and power—that the unacceptable face of capitalism is the only face of capitalism.

The corruption scandals at Leyland, or for that matter at the Coal Board, under Lord Robens, prove that state ownership by itself changes little. Only workers' power and socialism can do that.

For only in a real, full-blooded socialist society will every official be subjected to day-to-day accountability and scrutiny.

In such a society the causes of most corruption would have been removed. Doubtless some petty corruption would remain.

But if it did, there wouldn't be the slightest reason whatever to cover it up.

LEYLAND: SUPER CARS AND SUPER BRIBES

AT ANY TIME over the past few years the Daily Mail could have taken hold of any one of a number of stories concerning corruption in giant British corporations.

But the Daily Mail and the rest of the Fleet Street pack have always backed off.

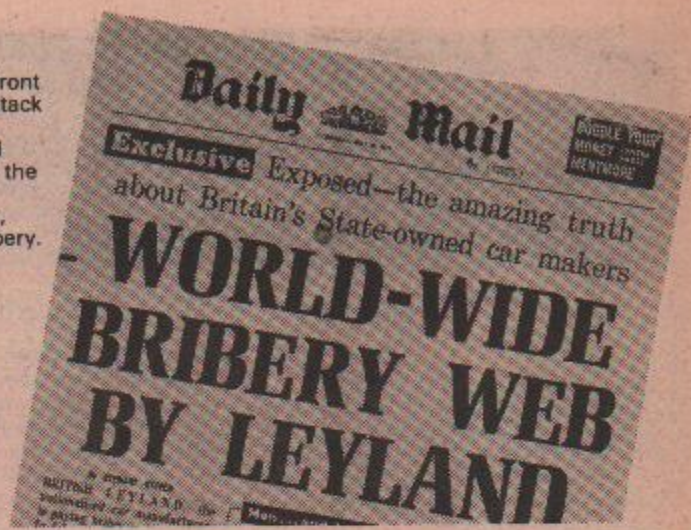
They never examined in any detail the Poulson swamp. They've never looked into the BP and Shell bribes abroad. They've never investigated Lonrho or Slater Walker.

As far as big business is concerned, they investigate as seldom as possible. So how come the Mail moved on Leyland?

The first instalment of their scoop last week makes that abundantly clear. They were interested not in big business corruption in general, but only corruption involving a nationalised company.

Their whole story was cynically angled away from the fact that Leyland's bribery and corruption was pioneered and

The Mail's front page—an attack more on a nationalised firm and on the Labour government, than on bribery.



developed under the private enterprise system Mail editor David English and his boss Vere Harmsworth love so deeply.

But even more, what delighted the top Mail executives was the apparent involvement of a Labour government.

There is little doubt that they saw their story as a vehicle for bringing down a Labour government. Only this sort of aim can explain why David English and the Mail executives and proprietors

never even bothered to submit the documentation with which they had been supplied to the most elementary confirmation and checking. They rushed ahead regardless.

The Mail has had the story since the beginning of the month. Yet it appears that they didn't even check Ryder's signature for authenticity until after publication.

The Mail were prepared to pay big money for Graham Barton's documents, including the Ryder fake. He was to get £50,000.

Doubtless David English and friends thought this would be money well spent if they could nail the Labour government.

This is not the first time that the Mail has published stories designed to bring down Labour governments and install their friends the Tories. Nor indeed is it the first time they've published an obvious fake.

On 10 October 1924 the Daily Mail carried the infamous Zinoviev letter, a forgery, in a bid to make the then Labour government lose the election.

This letter 'proved' that various Labour Ministers were the pawns of the Communist International. It was forged by leading Tories high up in the Foreign Office, and put into the Mail by its right-wing editor, Thomas Marlow.

Cynical

The letter was a cynical forgery. But it did its job. The Tories won the 1924 election on a wave of red-baiting hysteria.

Marlow also figures prominently in the run up to the General Strike. He wrote the infamous 'King and Country' editorial in the Mail which the printers refused to print. In all probability he wrote it as a deliberate provocation after a secret visit from Winston Churchill.

It is perhaps this sinister history that prompts a working-class paper like the Morning Star to rush to the defence of British Leyland in its present time of trial. This response is however completely wrongheaded.

The corrupt practices at British Leyland stink. They stink and the system of which they are inexorably a part stinks.

The journalistic practices of the Daily Mail are part of that stench too. They have double standards. Their blatant hypocrisy is more or less the moral norm of a society in an advanced state of decay.

JOHN VILLIERS, an ACTSS steward at the Jaguar plant in Coventry, told Socialist Worker:

'The only thing that surprises me about the Daily Mail revelations is that they seem to seem to think these kind of things don't go on under private enterprise.'

'But corruption spreads throughout the business world.'

'It can involve petrol fiddles and working your expense account to double your standard of living. Or there is the credit card lifestyle that the travelling businessman takes as a matter of course. Then it's tax evasion.'

'They try to use this glimpse of the good life as corruption to love up to trade union officials. They conduct negotiations not at the factory but in some plush hotel with expenses-paid lunches and free booze.'

'It's all part of the business.'

'We've got a deal, but we've got to give a lot of tobacco'



Slush fund founder Lord Stokes (standing, right) at a 1975 shareholders' meeting

From the Sunday Times, 22 May 1977:

THE IRONY is that the Barton reports were commissioned as the first step in tidying-up what had become a corrupt mess.

Concern about special commission' payments dates back to the formation of British Leyland in 1968 and the era of Lord Stokes, supersalesman. In the drive for business, bribery had become commonplace.

We spoke to one ex-Leyland sales executive last week who recalled distributing bribes in

Trinidad, Turkey, Iran, Egypt, Nigeria, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Peru, Panama, Venezuela and Honduras.

He also recalled, with perceptible surprise, that bribes were refused in Denmark, Holland, Hong Kong and Castro's Cuba. (Leyland used to bribe Castro's predecessor, the dictator Batista, but Castro, when he ordered more buses, said that he wanted the five per cent bribe margin cut from the contract price instead. Leyland agreed.)

Stokes controlled the special payments like everything else in British Leyland, as a one-man-

band. When a big sum was needed, according to several ex-Leyland men, Stokes would insist on the salesman going to his Berkeley Square office to explain.

'We've got a deal but we've got to give a lot of tobacco,' was the favoured slang.

And 'commissions' lubricated some notable coups. Sweden, for instance, makes excellent buses. But Leyland once won an order for several thousand there by giving £500,000 to one member of the particular council for distributing to his colleagues.

MURDER! BUT WHERE WERE THE HEADLINES?

By EAMONN McCANN

AMONG recent murders in the North of Ireland which will not figure in the official statistics of terror was that of Danny McCooey, who died in Belfast last Friday.

Danny, aged 20, and a friend were accosted by an army patrol as they came out of a city centre club around midnight on 30 April. When his companion started exchanging abuse with the soldiers, Danny put his arm around him and tried to pull him away towards a taxi rank to go home.

Violence

He was then set upon by the soldiers, beaten unconscious with rifle butts and literally dragged to a nearby army base at the Grand Central Hotel. There he was

revived and 'interrogated'. His friend, in another room, heard him crying and pleading for a doctor.

After two hours' 'interrogation' Danny was taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital, where he was classified as 'very ill'. His stomach had collapsed, a

lung was punctured and he was bleeding heavily internally.

Despite an emergency operation and 20 days' intensive care, he died on Friday.

Danny's fellow trade unionists at Charrington's printworks immediately came out on strike and

picketed an army base. About 800 people attended a protest demonstration near his home in the Falls on Friday night.

Not a work of all this appeared in the British press.

There have been the usual calls from Catholic politicians for an inquiry and promises from the RUC that

Terror Act claims Yorkshire victim

by DAVE GREEN, secretary, Bennett Defence Committee

THE Prevention of Terrorism Act has claimed a victim in Huddersfield. He is Ronan Bennett, a young Irishman who is being held in Armley jail, Leeds, facing deportation to Northern Ireland.

Ronan Bennett and Iris Mills, who was arrested with him, were held for the full seven days that is allowable under the Act. They were refused any outside contact or legal assistance.

An ad-hoc committee was quickly formed when the news broke in the local press and a picket of 50 trade unionists and students was called.

This forced the authorities to move Ronan from Huddersfield to Armley.

Iris Mills, who has now been released, told Socialist Worker: 'When the police came they pushed their way into the house. I asked them repeatedly to leave until one of them carrying a clip-board pushed me onto a sofa and said: "If you don't shut up I smash this in your face."

Meanwhile in London the Trade Union Committee against the Prevention of Terrorism Act has been banned from holding an important conference at Hammersmith Town Hall.

Butts

Despite dozens of murders and many hundreds of serious assaults, no soldier—or RUC man—has ever served a day in prison for violence to the civilians in the North.

On the political front too, little has changed. The Paisleyites, despite all the forecasts that they were finished after the collapse of their 'strike', doubled their first-preference votes and trebled their number of seats in last week's local government elections.

'As long as there's a Northern Ireland', booms the triumphant bigot afterwards, 'there'll be a place for Ian Paisley.' He never spoke a truer word.

THE WORKERS REPLY

FRANK HENDERSON is a sheet metalworkers' shop steward at the giant Leyland Longbridge plant in Birmingham. He told Socialist Worker:

'I'm afraid all this talk about corruption doesn't come as any surprise at all to myself and my workmates. I'd be surprised if it was anything other than that.'

'Just from our own experience here on the shop floor you can see how lying and cheating becomes a way of life for managers. Their job is to obtain more and more production and they'll do anything to get it.'

'And it's not at all the case that the corruption is centred just on foreign countries. Every now and then we hear the rumours of work being shunted out of Leyland to some small outworking establishment. Why is it going there?'

'It's going there because of some link or another with one of the executives.'

'The thing to be stressed in the light of the Daily Mail's articles is that all these techniques were pioneered by private enterprise, by privately-owned British companies and by the privately-owned American giants Ford and Chrysler.'

'We've talked a good deal about all this on the shop floor. Hardly anyone is surprised.'

'We've seen time and time again how they used blackmail against the unions, how they threaten closures and con us with offers of job security if only we'll work a little harder, only to follow it through with sackings.'

'All that the recent revelations show is that these blackmailers are also corrupt grafters and forgers.'

BILLY FAY, secretary of the shop stewards committee at British Leyland's Albion plant in Glasgow told Socialist Worker:

'Management here at the Albion have negotiated the removal of the chassis track to the Bathgate plant. In return we were to get 2000 jobs on a new gear box assembly line.'

'We're still waiting. If just some of this money in British Leyland's slush fund was diverted out of the pockets of the rich into retooling the Albion plant we'd shorten the dole queues at a stroke.'



Socialist Worker
WHAT WE THINK

AGEE GOES -AND THE M16 WITCH-HUNT GOES ON

THE working-class and socialist movement in Britain will lose two good friends over the next few weeks.

First, next Friday, former CIA agent Philip Agee, gamekeeper turned poacher, will finally be driven out of the country. He is being deported on the orders of Britain's secret services and their front man, Labour Home Secretary Merlyn Rees.

Then a few weeks later Agee's wife Angela will follow him to Holland when their two sons have finished school for the year.

They follow into exile Rudi Dutschke, the injured German socialist who was expelled by this government's Tory predecessors, an expulsion which was bitterly criticised by members of this government who are now driving out the Agees.

Now that the Agees and journalist Mark Hosenball have been forced out, M16 can happily get back to business, the business of observing and spying on active trade unionists, building up files for presentation (free of charge) to employers—as happened at Greenwich Steel Reinforcements in South East London.

Their business is helping insurance magnates, building contractors, right-wing Tories and other exploiters to set up organisations such as the National Association for Freedom so that employers of every kind can better employ the enormous power of the state machine to smash strikes and union organisation—as is happening at Grunwick's in North West London.

Their business is spying on any and everyone who wants a better world and a better society and who does something to put his or her beliefs into action, like journalist Duncan Campbell and Crispin Aubrey and former soldier John Berry, whose prosecution were announced on Tuesday.

Their business includes even dirtier tricks such as arranging murders and bombings, and when necessary promoting military coups, as the CIA has shown all over the world.

Philip and Angela Agee, to their great credit, devoted themselves to exposing these goings on, to increasing the knowledge and awareness that ordinary people had of what was being done to them or to others in their name.

For that the freedom-loving British establishment decided they must go. And sadly no movement strong enough was unleashed to overturn this scandalous decision. So go they must.

Socialist Worker wishes them well in their new haven, wherever it may be. They have our best wishes for the future.

If the socialist movement does its work properly in the years ahead it can be a future without CIAs and KGBs and M16, without murder and hypocrisy and above all without the exploitation which is the underlying cause of it all.

PICKET THE COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS CONFERENCE
Picket called by Hackney Asian Association, supported by Flame and the Socialist Workers Party.
Wednesday 8 June. Assemble 4.30pm, Houghton Street, outside the London School of Economics, to march to Lancaster House.

The police: Which side of the picket line?

'IF THE police are "special" when it comes to restricting their right to strike, then they must be "special" when it comes to negotiating their pay and working conditions.'

These are the words of Joseph Martucci, the increasingly desperate secretary of the Police Federation, talking to The Times on the eve of the most important Police Federation conference since 1919.

For this conference is already witnessing the most extraordinary outburst of rank and file police agitation over pay and conditions since the massive wave of police strikes that followed the First World War.

There was a massive vote for the right to strike and another to reform the Police Federation so that it starts behaving like a trade union.

As one delegate put it: 'We are workers like anyone else only we have to do society's dirty work.'

The employers and the government are in a cleft stick over police pay.

They must certainly agree with the sentiments expressed by Joseph Martucci, as any glance at the editorials in the daily newspapers will confirm. The millionaires and the millionaire press know only too well how essential the police are if they are to hang on to their stupendous wealth.

But they also know that millions of trade unionists will see any attempt to allow the police to break the wages norm as a green light for all of us.

The result is to stimulate among at least a minority of policemen the kind of aggressive sentiments normally only heard from industrial militants.

Whether this minority will be leading strikes in the next few

months is unpredictable. What is certainly true is that this minority is already providing a vehicle for the introduction of some very strange ideas into the heart of the police force.

Not only 'strike action' and 'joining the TUC' have become the normal round of conversation in police canteens. Also at stake is the entire chain of command that governs the work of the police.

When policemen talk about striking they are also talking about breaking the law and defying the top authorities in the police, which contradicts their very reason for existing.

There are many racist police, indeed National Front supporters, who are prepared to be militant on the wages issue. But this makes it all the more important for revolutionary socialists to find ways of relating to this extremely important development.

That is why Socialist Worker supports the right of the police to strike.

Affiliation to the TUC is a more difficult question. It raises the question of relations between the police and other trade unionists, such as on picket lines.

Earlier this century the trade union and socialist movement

made the condition of police affiliation to the TUC an agreement not to harass and break picket lines.

A glimpse of what can be possible has been seen on the Grunwicks picket line in North West London. Ever since the two police chiefs quit the local police station and joined the 'security' division inside Grunwicks, policemen on duty at the picket line have told strikers that at least some in the ranks are on their side.

It is only a tiny beginning, true, but it does show a crack in a police force otherwise united in its intense racism and hatred of organised workers.

Andy freed as Brosan backs down

ANDY STROUTHOUS, president of the Students Union of North East London Polytechnic, has been freed from Pentonville Prison.

After nine days of growing student support, of occupations and protests at dozens of colleges, the authorities at the polytechnic, led by director George Brosan, backed down and offered concessions.

Two weeks ago Andy was banned by the courts from entering any part of the premises of NELP where he has twice been elected president of the Students Union. He defied the injunction and the college had him imprisoned.

After one week Brosan got together with Charles Clarke, president of the National Union of Students. They offered Andy access to certain named rooms and nothing else.

Again Andy said this would make it impossible for him to carry out his job. After two more days in prison Andy came out when Brosan offered more concessions.

Without the militant support of students and many trade unionists, none of these concessions could have been won.



Andy would still be banned from entering NELP at all.

Andy's case was part of a campaign against the political independence of student unions and against the right of any worker or student to organise occupations.

It is a disgrace and a tragedy that most of the members of the executive of the National Union of Students did not realise this. They offered no support for the

NELP students. They openly opposed other students taking any action in support of Andy.

They cooked up the first deal with Brosan without consulting anyone at the NELP Students Union. Under its terms Andy would not even have been able to go and get a pencil from the student union storeroom next to his office, or go to the Student Union bar which he is supposed to administer.

Because of the NUS dealings, Andy had to spend two more days in prison, and the final deal was far weaker than it might have been.

If the NUS executive had acted with any determination at all at any time in the past year neither Brosan nor the courts would have been prepared to take any action against Andy or any other elected officer of a student union carrying out his job.

AFTER JUST 11 WEEKS, OUR £40,000 FUND HITS THE JACKPOT

£40,063 - MAGNIFICENT!

LET THIS be a lesson to Clive Jenkins, Frank Chapple and others who would seek to put us out of business.

£40,063 in just 11 weeks is astonishing by anyone's standards.

The trade union leadership have tried to say we are not

part of the labour movement—but if that's true, where did the money come from?

Jenkins's own members in ASTMS contributed more than £3,000. Many branches have sent money but have asked to remain anonymous for fear of victimisation.

We have been unable to calculate the exact number of contributors to our fund, but it

runs into tens of thousands.

At the beginning, we said the issue at stake was not an alleged libel, but a continual battle inside the unions for rank and file policies.

The side-stepping by many union leaders makes Victor Sylvester look like an amateur. They will do anything to avoid a head-on fight with the government over the Social

Contract.

But let them remember: the membership is awakening. Let them also remember that where there is a fight, even the smell of a fight, Socialist Worker will be there.

THANKS TO THE MOVEMENT, WE LIVE TO FIGHT.

Thanks to:

- Anon Bolton
- Teeside students
- P Harris Herefordshire
- Central London clothes sale
- Anon Edinburgh
- Liverpool
- Lambeth
- Lancaster
- London University Union
- Film Society
- R S Galacher NUS
- J S Galacher ASTMS
- Southampton
- Phillips Croydon
- S W London
- Anon
- Stuff the jubilee badges
- Camden
- Medway
- Sheila Robin UPW
- Students and Staff Derby Comprehensive
- Brighton
- Hebden Bridge SW readers
- Southampton
- J Sneller Rayleigh
- M Colquhoun Somerset
- Newcastle upon Tyne
- Acton
- Hammersmith
- Oxford Publishing 251
- Branch ASTMS
- Vauxhall Motors Bedford
- Mr Ms Wilson Clapham Junction
- American Supporter
- M Fitzgibbons
- J Ormsby Somerset
- Hendon lawyers
- Brighton

By Steve Jefferys

'THIS means Rent-a-Mob when you have a dispute.'

The words of the general secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, Terry Parry, at the opening of their Annual Conference in Bridlington last week.

He was waving a copy of the new rank and file newspaper, Rank and File Fireman.

Parry and the Executive Council of the FBU were determined to try and smash any chance of country-wide rank and file opposition to their 'left-wing' resolution-mongering.

Avoid

In the past they have always been able to isolate one Brigade from another.

Information about disputes, and the feelings of members in one area of the country, has been kept close to the EC chest so as to avoid the contagion spreading.

So when Rank and File

Fire down below...

UNION LEADERS LASH OUT OVER RANK AND FILE PAPER

Firemen threatened to make these links, the EC put the boot in.

The day before Conference opened, two supporters of Rank and File Fireman were suspended by the EC from their official positions and barred from attending Conference.

Terry Segars, Chairman of the East Anglia Region, joined Ronnie Robertson, B Division Chairman from Strathclyde, on the EC blacklist.

The EC acted under a rule which gives them the power to suspend officials on any excuse they care to dream up.

But Robertson was also unconstitutionally barred from attending Conference even as an elected rank and file member.

Parry justified this by quoting from a Rank and File

Fireman editorial which called for building up 'permanent pressure' within the FBU to fight for more militant policies.

Relish

'We cannot afford the luxury', he said, 'of people active in this movement (Rank and File Fireman) and within the Union as officers.'

The EC does not relish, of course, the 'luxury' of democracy.

But 30 rank and file firemen from South Yorkshire picketing the Conference saw

things differently. They heard Parry explain why he wasn't going to go on supporting pay controls.

Last year the FBU executive backed Stage Two. Now it was all change because we 'do not want to give pledges before hand that cannot be sustained on the shop floor'.

He really seemed to be sorry about it and advised his fellow TUC General Council members to 'grin and bear it and stop talking about going out of office.'

The EC statement on pay was passed unanimously with only one abstention. It com-

mitted the EC to oppose Stage Three and nothing else. No specific sum was mentioned; no deadline for action was given.

Resolutions and amendments arguing for more specific action were all withdrawn. The only positive thing left for rank and file firemen was the promise that once the national agreement on wages was sewn up, the FBU Executive would recall Conference to make the final decision.

Another assault on genuine democracy took place later on Wednesday afternoon when the central question of hours of work was discussed.

All firemen work a compulsory 48-hour week, and for a long time union policy has been to win the 40 hours.

Shift

But rank and file members want the 40-hour week with their shift pattern, a short-day alternating with a long-night.

They don't want to accept a 3-shift pattern with round-the-clock working.

Yet this is exactly what the EC are trying to smuggle in because they believe it will be more agreeable to the employers.

... AND ANOTHER 12 GET THE CHOP

TEN BRANCH officers and two members of the Fire Brigades Union's regional executive in West Surrey have had their credentials removed for taking part in unofficial industrial action.

It was done with Head Office approval by letter from regional chairman Len Gibbs on behalf of secretary Peter Lee.

Four stations—Guildford, Woking, Haslemere and Farnham—had decided to

work to rule in support of two victimised colleagues.

Trouble had been brewing for a couple of years, but came to a head over a fireman excused for 13 years from wearing full-face breathing apparatus.

He was recently served with notice to quit because he could not wear it.

A representative who tried to take up his case was silenced by being posted to the other end of the county.

A regional executive meeting was due to discuss

industrial action on the man's behalf when a letter allegedly from him was produced.

It was claimed that he wanted early retirement and didn't really want to be reinstated as an operational fireman.

Action

The man later denied writing the letter and claims it was a forgery.

The motion for industrial action was defeated, so the four stations took unofficial action to seek an independent

inquiry.

A trip by one FBU member to Head Office to clarify the matter was met with a rebuff.

The case for a fireman's rank and file organisation could hardly be stronger.

Firemen should put motions of support to their branches urging reinstatement of credentials for the victimised men.

Copies of resolutions to: Head office and Peter Lee, Number 12 Regional Secretary, 16 Stanley Road, Herne Bay, Kent.

WHERE WE STAND

INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS ACTION

The workers create all the wealth under capitalism. A new society can only be constructed when they collectively seize control of that wealth and plan its production and distribution.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

The present system cannot be patched up, or reformed, as the established Labour and trade union leaders say. It has to be overthrown.

THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

The structures of the present parliament, army, police and judiciary cannot be taken over and used by the working class. They grew up under capitalism and are designed to protect the ruling class against the workers.

The working class needs an entirely different kind of state—a workers' state based upon councils of workers'

delegates and a workers' militia.

At most, parliamentary activity can be used to make propaganda against the present system. Only the mass action of the workers themselves can destroy the system.

INTERNATIONALISM

The struggle for socialism is part of a world-wide struggle. We campaign for solidarity with workers in other countries.

We oppose everything which turns workers from one country against those from other countries.

We oppose racialism and imperialism. We oppose all immigration controls.

We support the right of black people and other oppressed groups to organise their own defence. We support all genuine national liberation movements.

We are for an end to all forms of discrimination against homosexuals.

We are for real, social, economic and political equality of women.

The experience of Russia

demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country.

Russia, China and Eastern Europe are not socialist, but state capitalist.

We support the struggles of workers in these countries against the bureaucratic ruling class.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To achieve socialism, the most militant sections of the working class have to be organised into a revolutionary socialist party.

Such a party can only be built by activity in the mass organisations of the working class.

We have to prove in practice to other workers that reformist leaders and reformist ideas are opposed to their own interests.

We have to build a rank and file movement within the unions.

We urge all those who agree with our policies to join with us in the struggle to build the revolutionary party.

STUFF THE JUBILEE!

THE Jubilee Tour began in Scotland last week, and despite the massive security, all three main cities managed to add a bit of colour by staging some sort of protest against the whole farce.

The biggest demonstrations were in Aberdeen. The local Nalگو Action Group, and the Socialist Workers Party branch, called a picket of the opening of Aberdeen's latest white elephant, the new Town House (front door £17,428, chairs £350 each).

Deserved

Several other socialist groups and the local University students Union helped distribute 3000 leaflets around various factories and offices, and more than 500 stuff the Jubilee badges were sold.

Between 100 and 120 people turned out to give the Queen the welcome she really deserved.

Later in the day, residents living on the route of the procession staged a demonstration by draping banners and placards out of window, and one house played the Internationale through

loudspeakers as the Queen passed by.

In DUNDEE, the route to be taken by the Queen was spray-painted with 'Stuff the Jubilee!' the night before, and the town plastered with posters.

Many other towns are planning 'republican welcomes'—with public meetings titled Stuff the Jubilee! Kick out the Scroungers!

To prove that being against the jubilee doesn't mean being kill-joy, Doncaster SWP are organising a children's picnic to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Death of George VI!

RESPONSE to the Stuff

Watch out, fascists!

WE MUST try to stop the National Front building on their vote in the local elections.

And so the Socialist Workers Party is going to:

Produce a pamphlet dealing explicitly with ways of nipping in the bud NF gains in the unions.

Produce a fresh set of anti-NF posters, leaflets and

three quarters of the South Yorkshire brigade. This unofficial action was called by a rank and file meeting.

Rank and File Fireman will not, many attending Conference believed, be exterminated just like that.

Firemen still need this publication and it will continue to appear.

Appeal

Funds are needed urgently to pay for the last edition and mass leaflet and to get out a new edition.

Those involved therefore appeal to everyone anxious to help (and pay their debts) to send donations to:

Rank and File Fireman, 265a, Seven Sisters Rd, London N4.



Rank and File DIARY

HEALTH WORKERS ALMANACK: Essential reading for all who care about the NHS. Information and practical advice for all hospital trade unionists. Order now from Hospital Worker, 19 Red Post Hill, London SE24 or phone 01-733 8443—contribute to the next one.

HOSPITAL WORKER: Articles for next issue should be sent by 1 June to Roger Frost, Pathology Dept, Hackney Hospital, Hackney, London, E9 6BH. Orders to Hospital Worker, 19 Red Post Hill, London SE24 or phone 01-733 8443.

GLASGOW Right to Work Campaign Stuff the Jubilee DISCO DANCE Saturday 11 June, 8pm 1am (late bar till 1am), Highlanders Institute. Tickets: employed 75p, unemployed 50p, from 64 Queen Street, (phone 041-221 3426).

The Right to Work Campaign require a plumber and a driver with an HGV license, 1-7 September. For further details, apply 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

Right to Work Campaign PETITION OF THE UNEMPLOYED to the Blackpool Trades Union Congress against the Social Contract. Blank copies available from Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4. Send stamped addressed envelope.

Right to Work Campaign BADGES: 35 hours now. Fight for the right to work. Stop the Cuts. Smash the Social Contract. Save our Hospitals. All from the Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4. 10p each (+ 7p postage). Cash with orders please.

RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN collecting tins. Raise funds for the Right to Work Campaign on the streets and door to door. 30p each including postage. Orders to Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

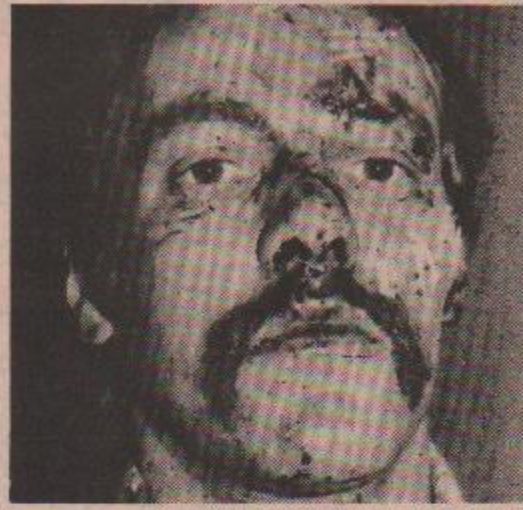
NALGO ACTION NEWS: 5p a copy plus 7p postage, from 23a Alpha House, Ashbridge Street, London, NW8.

If you want to know more about Socialist Worker and the Socialist Workers Party, fill in the form on page 16.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER

NAZI THUGS DID THIS—AND GOT AWAY WITH IT

Why?



Two victims of National Front thuggery at a meeting in Manchester in November 1975—and the trail of damage left behind in the meeting room by the Nazis

THESE SOCIALISTS FOUGHT BACK—AND NOW FACE JAIL

Why?

TWO well-known East London socialists, Roger Burridge and Michael Fenn, stand trial at the Old Bailey on 13 June

Roger, a lawyer working at Newham Rights Centre and Michael, a docker and one of the editors of the influential rank and file paper Dockworker, face serious charges.

Charges

The charges—affray, grievous bodily harm and two counts of actual bodily harm—relate to a fight with two fascists outside Newham Rights Centre.

The incident took place on Saturday 6 December 1975 at around 1.30pm.

Roger and Michael, both

Michael Fenn and Roger Burridge outside the Newham Rights Centre: the incident took place seven days after the Nazi Front attack on a meeting in Manchester, an attack which the DPP ignored.



members of the Socialist Workers Party, were passing the Centre when they saw two men who looked as if they might be about to damage the premises.

They discovered that the two men were plastering Nazi stickers and slogans over the material advertising the Race Relations Act.

Told to clear off, the response of the two fascists was to lash out wildly with punches.

In the course of the fight, which then took place, there

were injuries on both sides.

The incident was reported to the police. Two months went past before the police started bringing charges.

Predictably, they were brought only against Roger and Michael.

First came the grievous and actual bodily harm charges. Then, last summer, nearly a year after the incident, the Director of Public Prosecutions topped these with fighting and making an affray—an even more serious charge used against the

Shrewsbury pickets and other demonstrators over the years.

At the same time, the DPP was deciding against any prosecutions in another case involving the National Front.

Attacked

Seven days before the incident in Newham, coachloads of NF thugs attacked a National Council for Civil Liberties meeting in Manchester.

They threw a brick at the chairman, solicitor Tony Casson. They assaulted

Graeme Atkinson, putting a broken bottle in his face and causing wounds requiring 19 stitches.

They badly injured Malcolm Peach's eye and broke his arm. And they beat up a 60-year-old woman, Mrs Tansey.

They also wrecked the meeting hall, causing £3000 worth of damage.

One possible explanation for this double standard is that, apart from the usual right-wing sympathies of the senior policemen and prosecuting authorities, they

see this trial as an opportunity to hit back at rank and file dockers for their victories in 1972.

As they must know, Michael Fenn was one of the leading rank and file militants involved in the great Pentonville victory, and the Special Branch would undoubtedly like to take some revenge for this.

Since the fight, the racists have repeated their visits to the Rights Centre. Among the things they have scrawled up are 'You're not welcome here. NF army '77'.

Then there are vile stickers with the Nazi flag and the slogan 'Niggers beware, hands off whites or we'll kill you'.

The printer's imprint on this masterpiece is Lincoln, Nebraska, and it appears that these stickers are produced by the Ku Klux Klan.

The Front have also engaged in racist attacks on Asians in East London. Not once have they been prosecuted. They've also beaten up white anti-racists.

Set on

Not long before the Newham Rights fight, Ray Oifley, Communist Party candidate in the council elections, was set on in the lavatories at West Ham Town Hall after an anti-racist meeting.

He was beaten with an iron bar and hospitalised. The police made no effort to arrest his attackers and no charges were brought.

Socialist Worker will be carrying full reports of this crucial Old Bailey trial.

We urge all our readers to give financial, moral and practical support to Roger and Michael, as well as doing everything to ensure that the struggle against the Nazis goes on, court cases or not.

The Carnival Carve-up

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER

WHY 18 YOUNGSTERS COULD SOON BE THE TARGET FOR A WAVE OF 'MUGGING' HYSTERIA

THE SO-CALLED 'Carnival Trial' at the Old Bailey is now in its second week.

In the dock are 18 West Indian youngsters who the police claim picked pockets and 'conspired' to pick pockets at last summer's Notting Hill Carnival.

Meanwhile Fleet Street headline writers are busily vying to package their filthy products. The 'better' papers are no exception...

Empty homes

Orgy of mugging at carnival, screeched The Guardian last week. Paul Ashton teaches at Tollington Park where many of the youngsters went to school. He knows some of them well.

Here he describes the conditions in which most of them have been brought up:

The housing situation in Islington, where the lads live, is one of the worst in London.

There are enormous waiting lists and yet, all over Islington, there are empty, derelict houses in many cases smashed up by the council, or long streets of corrugated iron where once there were houses, and, one day perhaps, there may be houses again.

Overcrowded and unsuitable housing puts strains on families and drives children to the streets for recreation, especially when, as teenagers, they need room to move around.

There are few facilities. The kids are extremely poor and while they are again and again encouraged to partake of the great consumer society, like other youngsters they have little or no money.

The children who grow up

in this atmosphere are not impressed by calls from teachers and parents to study hard and make their way in life.

They see their parents trying to work hard and still not making it to a reasonable standard of living.

Unemployment is even higher among black youth than white and higher in Islington than in the rest of London.

Dole

Many black kids are keen and successful at school until it dawns on them that the qualifications they are working for don't mean a thing.

The only thing they can see

ahead of them is year on the dole.

One bright and energetic lad got a job on a lathe for 45p an hour when he left school. Two months later, the firm laid people off and he was the first to go, taking his exam qualification with him.

The police, smarting from a number of recent riots, harass young blacks and their families, picking up youths 'on suspicion' and invading their homes.

Stories of beatings-up and goings-over without charges being made are so common in Islington that they hardly get noticed.

And behind this lies an upsurge of National Front activity, fomenting race hatred and using every oppor-

tunity to set communities where immigrants live at each other's throats.

The propaganda they use can be found in daily newspaper, instigated reporting and one-sided stories.

Black youth feel themselves identified as a criminal class by this propaganda, trapped without decent housing, wages or prospects, and then made to pay the penalty for the rotten society—being used as scapegoats.

Invited

Their parents were invited over after the war because industry and the expanding welfare state needed cheap labour. Their cultural roots were overseas, but they had

work, even if it was the worst paid.

Their children have to make their roots here, in the decay of the cities and the frustration of unemployment.

The arrest of the Islington 18 is a warning by the police that black youth had better just lie down and take it.

The need for black and white to join together and fight has never been greater.



FLAME

Latest issue now out. Articles on police harassment in East London, the war in Zaire, the class war in Kenya, blacks in the British Army, and the latest in official Home Office racism... their 'sex-snooping' operation. 12p a copy (including postage) from Flame, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

Crime at the top

THE REVELATIONS about British Leyland show one thing clearly:

Crime flourishes in present day society on a much greater scale than you might think from the court reports in your local papers or even from descriptions of the exploits of the Kray Brothers.

Escapades

The Times correctly pointed out that Leyland is not an isolated case. There is 'an iceberg of unknown proportions'.

Remembering the revelations about Lockheed bribing half the governments in the western world, the saga of T. Dan

Smith and Poulson, the escapades of former Minister John Stonehouse, the business intrigues of former US President Nixon and his No. 2, Agnew, The Times statement is almost certainly an understatement.

Crime at the top does not just involve corruption. It also involves murder.

In the 1930s, Ford in America hired Mafia gangsters to attack trade unionists. In the 1960s, the US government under JF Kennedy turned to the same people in an attempt to assassinate Fidel Castro of Cuba.

In the 1970s, ITT and other US firms in Chile encouraged the people who murdered the head of the Chilean army.

During Nixon's time at the White House, he and Agnew made repeated statements on 'law and order' and 'the

silent majority'.

In particular they identified 'crime' as associated with drug addiction. The peddling of drugs became one of the most serious criminal offences.

In Britain, too, the defenders of the "Western Way of Life" and "Christian civilisation" claim drugs are part of an insidious undermining of society as a result of 'permissiveness' and 'leftist infiltration' of school.

Markets

Yet at that time one of the main sources of opium-based drugs was the American run sector of Cambodia. And the main organisation moving those drugs out of the country to western markets was none other than

the American spy organisation, the CIA.

There is a direct relation between such crime at the top of society and crime at the base.

Welcome

The CIA and the Mafia import drugs into the US. They welcome the activities of the various drug control agencies that keep the smaller fish from joining in on the act—it helps force up the price.

Meanwhile, in the streets of New York, hundreds of thousands of people are driven to despair by the horrors and loneliness of life in the inner zone of a city where there are few jobs, particularly for black people.

Many of those people see drugs as the only relief from the tedium of their existence. To keep up with the rising price of drugs, they are forced to engage in petty crime—burglary and pickpocketing.

Drives

The people who have profited from the removal of industry and jobs from the inner-city, the people who have friendly connections with the CIA and the Mafia, then point to this crime as proof of the need for more law and order, for more of the repression and racialism that drives people to drugs and crime in the first place.

In Britain there is not the same intimate connection between petty crime and hard drugs.

But there is the same connection between the exploits of 'respectable' businessmen and the clientele of the local magistrates court.

A government survey last week said that one out of every two young people could expect to be unemployed at some time over the next 12 months.

That is the other side to the 'recovery of profits' of which our employers and 'our' Labour government boasts.

Crime

It is a condition that will get worse if 'our' trade union leaders get their way and push through a new wave of productivity deals.

It will hardly be surprising if some of these teenagers do not turn to crime out of desperation.

Then the same bloated parasites who have brought about this state of affairs, the Healeys and the Thatchers and the Boysons will complain about 'the decline of civilised standards' and demand stricter police measures.

The one thing they won't admit is that it is their profit-based system that has brought about the 'decline in standards.'

Do you agree with the ideas in this column? What aspects of Socialism would you like to see discussed? Send your ideas and comments to Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

Socialist Worker

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TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM
Chris Harman

In a profit-based society there is a direct connection between crime at the top and the court report in your local paper.

'Your job or your life?'

ROBERT HOWARTH was shocked when he discovered that the dust from the white metal he was working on was asbestos.

He had seen a labourer cutting the white sheets without an extractor being used and had seen people cleaning down machinery after working on asbestos at the Jable Ltd factory in Altham.

Mr Howarth demanded that the factory inspector be called in. But he was told that according to an inspector's report there was no health hazard.

Sacked

When he asked for an assurance that he wouldn't get lung cancer from working with asbestos, no one could give him one.

So he refused to work with it and was sacked.

An industrial tribunal in Manchester upheld the company's decision to sack him.

The factory inspector—who visited the factory only twice in two years—said that he had advised the company

to contact the local authority because their disposal of the dust was not satisfactory.

Mr Howarth told the tribunal: 'My own father died from lung cancer and I know what a terrible death it is.'

Disagree

Chairman of the tribunal, Mr Henry Gore, said he thought Mr Howarth's fears were: 'Genuine but ill-founded.'

There are more than a few asbestos widows who would disagree with him.

□ 'Horse-whipping a hunt saboteur is rather like beating a wife. They are both private matters.' - Essex Hunt Master Tim Asplin, quoted in Howl, the anti-bloodsports magazine.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER: Morning Star readers will have noted that their report of the TGWU elections (April 22) omitted Right to Work Candidate Tommy Riley's name from the list of votes received.

Tommy wrote a letter to the Star three days later. It appeared on May 17.

Watch out, there's a docker about

AN EX-DOCKER was given a job at Reinforcement Steel, Greenwich, South London, after providing excellent references.

A week later, when management discovered his previous occupation, Roebuck, the works manager, sent a memo to the man's head of department which included these immortal words:

'One is not aware of the implications of taking on a docker, although this is obviously not a reason to sack him.'

'In future we must ensure that any applicant's background is satisfactory.'

□ RICHER readers of Fifth Column might be interested to know that for only £29.70 they can receive the 'Tax and Insurance Letter'.

This interesting reading will provide 'high earners' with such valuable information as:

**

- How to save a whole tax year—legally
 - How to stretch executive rewards during pay restraint
 - How to borrow venture capital from German sources at low rates
- And of course: How to save thousands upon thousands for your children.

THE PRICE OF JUSTICE: An Old Bailey case against a man alleged to have stolen £14,350 from a bank in Hammersmith cost £313,977 for the trial.

Lord Justice Lawton has asked for an explanation from the police about why the case took 111 days to hear.

'IF THE Conservatives gained control of the Greater London Council employees with left-wing beliefs would be sacked, the GLC Tory Leader Horace Cutler, told the annual meeting of Greater London Young Conservatives. —from Public Service, the NALGO newspaper.



THE PRINTERS Charitable Corporation, which was set up by Queen Victoria, is carrying on in royal fashion with a Jubilee Print Parade on May 28.

The march is to raise funds to be divided between the Corporation and Prince Charles' Trust.

Members of the NAT-SOPA print union are invited to join in by their union journal 'please come, please contribute and win the Vic Feather Memorial Trophy for NAT-SOPA... It (the parade) has a right to your support.'

Prizes are being awarded for the best fancy dress on the theme 'The Jubilee and the Print.'

Unemployed print workers might be able to think up their own 'original' idea.

**

CATCH 22: Pickets at a Greater London Council office on the May 11 day of action against the cuts were successfully turning away lorry drivers and post office vans.

One private motorist was not so co-operative. He immediately jumped out of his car, waving a piece of paper at the pickets, and threatened to break their necks.

The token policeman calmed him down and explained that the pickets had a right to state their case.

That afternoon the policeman was replaced by one of the heavy brigade who told the pickets: 'if anyone else threatens to break your neck we'll arrest you for threatening behaviour.'

**

□ THE FOLLOWING ADVERT appeared in the Daily Telegraph Personal Column on 19 May:

Support Rhodesia Car Sticker, 15p to Garratt, Flat 2, Rear 20, Port Street, Evesham, Worcester.

DURING THE demonstration to get Andy Strouhouw out of Pentonville, a number of prison officers came to the wall to watch.

Two pickets went over to talk to them. Both the comrades had dark hair and dark features.

A prison officer suggested that 'foreigners should think themselves lucky to be able to demonstrate in this country at all.'

When that argument was taken up the prison officer and his master flashed their National Front insignias...



Tightening our belts:

A YOUNG GIRL started work in the rich man's Co-op—Harrods—and was sent unsupervised to the Furs Department. A customer came in and tried on a £6000 fur coat and walked out wearing it—without paying. The assistant was so dumb struck by her arrogance that she hadn't asked the customer for her name (for account purposes).

Expecting the sack, she went to the manager and explained. He laughed and said that from the description it could only have been one of 20 people, so he added it to all 20 accounts. So far the coat has been paid for seven times.

WITHOUT COMMENT

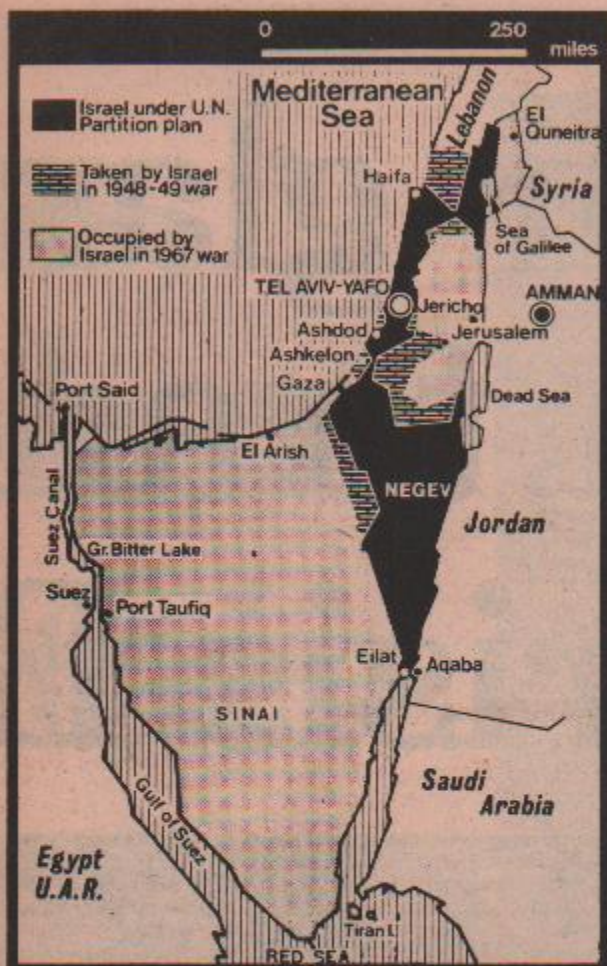
'THE ONLY limited support for the government from non-official sources seems to be coming via the recently legalised Communist influenced Workers Commissions, which issued a statement in Madrid last night opposing calls for a general strike in the Basque region and saying it was not in the workers' interests to allow anything to interfere with the general election'.

—Financial Times correspondent, 17 May

VACANCY	HERDSMAN/WOMAN	(PLAIN OR MIXED)
DISTRICT	BODMIN	
BUSINESS	AGRIC RATES	
SALARY	TO BE ARRANGED	
HOURS	TO LOOK AFTER HERD OF 100+ FRIESAN COWS. UNDERTAKE MILKING & GEN. UPKEEP OF HERD. FULLY EXPERIENCED. 3 BEDROOM HOUSE AVAIL.	
REMARKS		
REF. No.	BODMIN O/N B395A	502.04
	NEWSFLASH 69/9	

—from the window of a Job Centre in East London, an area famous for its fully experienced herdsmen (and women).

Israel's new PM ... a mass killer



THE FIRST act of the newly-elected Prime Minister of Israel, Menachem Beigin, was to declare last week that the territory seized by Israel in the 1967 Middle East War was not 'occupied'. It was 'liberated'.

For the two million Palestinian Arab refugees living in disease-infested camps around the borders of Israel, the election of the extreme right-wing Likud to power has destroyed any lingering

doubts that Israel will peacefully give them back their homes.

Instead, persecution of Arabs will intensify—and resistance will grow.

Palestinian Arabs inside Israel's borders organised three general strikes last year alone. Hundreds of thousands of Arab workers and their families took part.

Arrested

Police shot dead six young Arab demonstrators in the April general strike. Thousands of others were arrested.

Israel has been a racist state since it was set up by a British Labour government and its American allies in 1947.

Enshrined in its laws is the declara-

tion that any Jew, born anywhere in the world, can come to Israel as a citizen. But Arabs born in Jaffa, in Nabhus, in Jerusalem, who fled from the fighting in 1947, cannot return.

The new Prime Minister, Beigin, was one of the founders of this racist state. In 1947 he was the commander of the Irgun, a private army that split from official Zionism in the 1930s.

The ideas of the Irgun were fascist. They believed that Israel was the home of the Jews and of no-one else, that the Jews had a special mission in the world, that the borders of Israel should be extended far beyond even their present boundaries.

In the 1930s, before the Nazi mass murder of the Jews in Germany became common knowledge, they even adopted the fascist salute.

In 1947, the Irgun struck against the Arabs. As the British prepared to

leave, the Irgun formed an alliance with another extreme fascist split within Zionism, the Stern gang. This organisation had even received military training in Mussolini's Italy before the Second World War.

The two organisations jointly attacked an Arab village called Dair Yassin. More than 200 men, women and children were massacred. Many died after being thrown down wells. The few survivors were marched through Jerusalem covered in blood.

Attacks were launched on the Arab communities in Jaffa and Jerusalem.

As the massacres spread, thousands of Arabs fled. Altogether, one million Arabs fled to Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. The refugee camps they set up still exist.

The population of those camps is now two million. The inhabitants survive on hand-outs from the United Nations.

The attack on Dair Yassin was not an isolated event.

More than anything else, the attack on Dair Yassin and the murder of 250 people established Israel as an exclusively Jewish State. The man who organised the attack is now Israel's Prime Minister.

In 1947, two-thirds of the population of what is now Israel were Arabs, owning 94 per cent of the land.

By 1967, 90 per cent of the Arab land had been confiscated and handed over to Jewish organisations.

Extreme

After 1947, Beigin spent years in opposition, leading the extreme right wing of Zionism. But most of the policies he would approve—the expropriation of the Arabs, territorial expansion, racist laws—have been carried through by the successive 'labour' governments.

Golda Meir, the former Prime Minister, summed up what all Zionist politicians fear most when she declared: 'I cannot sleep at night for thinking about the Palestinian babies being born.'

Those people on the left in Britain who defend Israel's right to exist are totally wrong.

They are defending a state whose existence depends on racist laws—and the exclusion of two million people from their homes.



The faces of Israel: TOP, Palestinians fleeing in 1947, ABOVE LEFT, the man who organised the murder of 250 people, new Prime Minister Beigin, and ABOVE RIGHT, a victim of Israeli napalm

'SPAIN'S POLICE TORTURED ME'



Carlos: behind the liberal image, nothing has changed

By Eric Cameron

TORTURE is still being used to try and crush opposition to continued Spanish rule in the Basque country.

As part of its attempt to build a liberal image, the Spanish government of King Juan Carlos last week announced that another 26 Basque political prisoners will be released—provided they go into exile in Belgium.

During the demonstrations that forced the government to make this 'concession', five young Basques were murdered by police.

One Basque arrested during demonstrations has described what happened to him in the headquarters of the Guardia Civil at Segura:

Beating

There were Sergeant Lopez and Sergeant Benjamin, a corporal from Segura and a lieutenant from Beasain

as well as many other policemen from San Sebastian.

They started beating me after they hanged me by the hands and arms, they seem to go berserk.

Lopez and Segura pulled me down to the floor and while kicking me with their heavy boots, shouted at me to get up.

I could not, I did not have any strength left, my back and feet were very painful, they got hold of my head and twisted and pulled back...

Others put their thumbs in my eyes and pressed and pressed, I thought I was going blind, I could not see a thing.

Lopez tried to throw water mixed with acid over me, but the lieutenant restrained him, he said he knew better tortures.

They started beating me up again, I was grabbed by the throat and could not breathe, I thought I'd die.

Worried

All these tortures were never ending, they broke my ear-drum, can't hear a thing, they worried that I would die. I had a deep cut over my temple, they call a doctor, he wasn't one, he was another policeman, they left me unconscious.

My inmates saw me being dragged to my cell, they were also tortured, they screamed and screamed, their faces dark blue and swollen.

A few hours later they started on me again they called all kinds of insults, they did things to me again and again, I don't want to remember.

Rhodesia: Smith's secret massacre

By John Rogers

THE ARMY of the Smith regime in Rhodesia has carried out a massacre of black civilians in a village called Madimutsa.

The massacre took place on 29 December last year, according to information reaching Socialist Worker.

British newspapers have

carried reports of the incident, dated 9 May, claiming that the civilians were caught in cross-fire between white Rhodesian and black nationalist forces. This is untrue.

Just after dusk on 29 December, guerrillas came to the 'protected' village of Madimutsa near Mtoko, and ordered everyone out of their huts with their belongings.

They then fired the village and left the area.

Protected villages have been set up by the white regime to break popular support for the black nationalist forces.

The white Rhodesian army arrived at 8pm. From a distance of between 20 and 30 yards, they opened fire on the villagers.

There had been no resistance. There was no reason why anyone should think that the villagers were nationalist guerrillas.

Thirty-six died immediately. Another 26 wounded were air-lifted to Harari Hospital, where another died.

Twenty-five people, mostly women and children, were treated for bullet wounds and other injuries. Some still have to return to the hospital for skin grafts and other treatment.

How long will it be before British newspapers print the truth about what happened?

Southern Africa: VICTORY TO THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS—BLACK WORKERS TO POWER!

Speaking tour, with members of the Soweto Students Representative Council and the Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign.

- EDINBURGH: Thursday 26 May, 8pm, Societies Centre, Hill Place.
- DUNFERMLINE: Friday 27 May, 7.30pm, Carnegie Baths.
- SOUTHLANDS COLLEGE: Thursday 2 June, 8pm, Speaker Tony Bogues.
- HARLOW: Wednesday 15 June, 8pm, Tye Green Community Association, Bush Fair.
- LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY: Wednesday 15 June, 12.30pm, Students Union.
- LIVERPOOL SWP: Wednesday 15 June, 8pm, place to be announced.
- WOLVERHAMPTON: Thursday 16 June, 1pm, Polytechnic, 8pm, Dunstall Community Centre.

- MAIDSTONE: Tuesday 14 June, 8.00pm, film in Maidstone College of Art, Wednesday 15 June, 12 noon meeting in MCA Students Union.
- HIGH WYCOMBE: Wednesday 15 June, place to be announced.
- ENFIELD: Tuesday 14 June, 7pm, Middlesex Poly, Enfield Precinct.
- TOTTENHAM: Thursday 16 June, place and time to be announced.
- READING: Thursday 2 June, 8pm, Trade Union Club, Minster Street.
- IPSWICH: Wednesday 8 June, 8pm, Station Hotel.
- GRAVESEND: Wednesday 8 June, 8pm, Town Arms pub, Queen

DEMONSTRATE

Saturday 18 June—anniversary of the Soweto Uprising. Assemble Speakers Corner, London, 1pm.

The Southern Africa Solidarity BADGE has been reprinted at last. ORDER NOW from SWP International Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. 20p (plus 6½p postage) each, £2 for ten (post free), £15 for 100. Cash with order only.

make cheques payable to SWP International Fund. SPARK, bulletin of the Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign—latest issue out now (17p, includes postage) from SASC, c/o 21 Mayall Road, London SE24.

Cypriot refugee beaten up in Pentonville jail

HE SAID to me: Did you know that your uncle complained to the governor? He wants to make trouble for us doesn't he?

Then he took me by the hair, pulled me towards the wall. He banged me up against it at least three times.

He took me by the hair once again and hit me four times on the head. After that he hit me on the face.

I tried to escape his blows by sitting down in the corner of the cell and holding my head in my arms.

That is part of the text of a letter smuggled out of Pentonville prison last month by John Evangelou Savva, a 25-year-old Cypriot refugee, who has now been forced to leave this country.

Before being forced to go to live in Belgium, where he will no longer be hounded by Britain's racist immigration laws and immigration officers, John Savva was locked in Pentonville for three and a half months. And there he was brutally beaten.

Student

John came to this country in 1970 as a student. While he was here the island of Cyprus again fell victim to imperialism. His home became part of occupied territory and like thousands of other Cypriots John Savva hoped he would find refuge here.

CYPRIOUS DEFENCE CAMPAIGN STOP THE DEPORTATIONS NO PARTITION!

Archbishop Makarios, president of Cyprus, will be in London for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference. Demand that he support the campaign to stop the deportation from Britain of Cypriot refugees.

Friday 10 June: Makarios is attending a premiere of a film about his life. Join the picket at 7.30pm, outside the Rainbow Theatre, Finsbury Park, London, N4.

Sunday 12 June: Picket the church serve in Camden All Saints Church, Assemble Camden tube, 10.30am.

But successive Labour and Tory governments were busy blaming immigrants for the problems caused by the capitalist system they both endorse. And John fell victim to their ploys.

John was locked up pending deportation. Inside Pentonville he fell victim to warders so twisted by the system that they enjoy beating up defenceless people.

His uncle, Nikos Himonas, from Forest Gate in East London, was meanwhile organising to help him. He got 300 signatures to a petition for John's release.

Trembling

Then, on Thursday 28 April, he visited his nephew in prison. He found him frightened and trembling. He decided to complain to the governor.

The response of one prison officer who had put John in terror was to torment him again.

Two days later relief finally came. John was freed from Pentonville on condition that his uncle got him out of the country. By the time the Immigration laws and the prison system had finished with him he was glad to go.

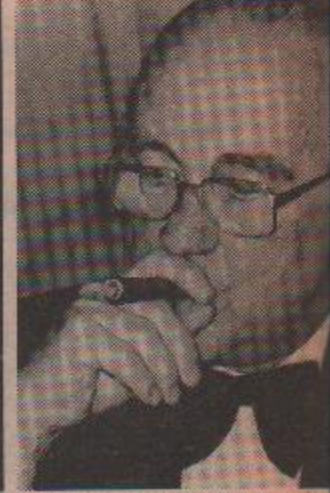
But what has this great victory for the racists achieved? Has it reduced unemployment? Is it any easier to get housing? Have food prices stopped rising? Are old age pensioners any better off next winter?

Of course not. The deportation of a hundred thousand poor people like John Savva wouldn't alter any of this because every bit as much as John Savva, others on the end of the housing shortage and the rest are the victims of a crazy system. That system wants immigrants when there's an economic boom and then wants to expel them when there are no more dirty jobs for them to do.

All credit to John Savva and Nikos Himonas for trying to fight the injustices with which they were faced. This time they were beaten.

But if we could build a movement big enough, powerful enough and determined enough, who can doubt that all this mountain of injustice and misery could be swept away.

Raise your glass gentlemen, to another year of Crisis Britain



Guests at the CBI dinner join Denis Healey's toast: (from left) Tory Industry spokesman Sir Keith Joseph, Minister of Unemployment Albert Booth and Sir Ralph Bateman NCB chairman Sir Derek Ezra, shopworkers' union leader Lord Allen, and CBI president Lord Watkinson of Cadbury Schweppes.

IN THE LUXURY of the Dorchester Hotel, in London's Park Lane, last week the men who control British industry celebrated three years years of the Social Contract.

As their special guest at the annual dinner of the Confederation of British Industry, the chairman and top directors invited

a man they have every reason to be grateful to — Labour's Chancellor of the Exchequer, Denis Healey.

The third partner in the Social Contract, the full-time officials of the Trades Union Congress, were represented at the dinner by a Lord, Lord Allen, general secretary of the shop workers' union USDAW.

Together they drank toasts to three very successful years for

private industry. Profits are now booming, wages are held down. There haven't been so few strikes since the early 1950s.

They gulped back the three different wines and guzzled their way through the successive courses of the banquet.

But as everyone there knew, there was a spectre at the feast.

Since Christmas more workers have shown the take any more of the hype the Social Contract.

Prices have not been held. Instead the food subsidies being withdrawn. Unemployment is still rising. Half the leavers this year will go straight to the dole, according to a recent survey.

Another year of the Social Contract will mean another

THE MEN WHO ARE BENEFITTING FROM LABOUR'S PAY CODE—A

PROFITS are booming. These are the percentage increases in the first three months of this year, compared with the same period last year:

Heavy engineering	36.7
Food manufacturing	28.3
Food selling	21.2
Textiles	90.6
Shipping	119.7
Chemicals	50.1
Banks	63.9
Insurance	643.8
Construction	28.6
Electrical	40.2

Property 37.7
In 1972 GEC made £77 million profit before taxation. They employed 181,000 workers. They made £424 profit from each worker they employed.

By March 1976 pre-tax profits had risen to £207 million. The number of workers employed had

fallen to 166,000. The profit made from each employee was £1,247.

The Social Contract was supposed to include restraints on pay-outs to shareholders as well as a wage freeze. In fact the Economist, the businessmen's weekly, wrote in March: 'Are Britain's dividend con-

trols effectively a dead letter? The Stock Market certainly seems to think so.'

Companies scream about high taxes, but behind the smokescreen they pay very little tax indeed on their profits.

THE MEN WHO BROKE IT . . .

LLOYDS BANK paid salary increases to more than 136 of their top executives last year. All were already getting more than £8,500, the government's limit beyond which no rises are allowed.

Lloyd's explained: 'In our case these are all people who have been given new appointments or responsibilities.'

But when the electricians at Port Talbot steelworks argued that they too should get more money because they were being asked to carry out new work with new machinery, they were refused—because 'It is against the Social Contract.'

At Birmid Qualcast, the chairman and five directors each received

increases of around £2,000.

Carrington Viyella's three directors and five executives had increases of between £2,000 and £10,000 a year each.

The Fisons chairman rose from £41,000 a year to £51,000, the top two directors from £40,000 to £42,000 and the top two

executives from £22,000 to £25,000.

At Gestetner, two chairmen increased their weekly pay from £442 to £538 a week.

In 1975 28 senior staff at the National Coal Board earned between £10,000 and £12,000 a year, more than £200 a week. Today there are 120. The number earning between £12,000 and £15,000 rose from one to 21.

. . . AND THE WORKERS WH

IN THE three years since Labour took office in March 1974 real wages have suffered the worst fall since the year after the General Strike.

Four million families now live on £45-a-week

pay or less. That's pay, before tax, national insurance contributions.

A family earning gross a week are a poverty line if they have two children. Their

WHY YOU SHOULD BE A SOCIALIST
PAUL FOOT

NOW BACK IN PRINT

We socialists are not fanatics or time servers. We are socialists because we see the prospect which life holds out for all working people.

We want the commitment of workers who laugh and live and want to end the wretchedness and despair which shuts love and laughter out of so many lives.

We do not have to spend the rest of our lives, and leave our children to spend the rest of their lives, wrestling in the struggle against a mean and despotic ruling class.

Society can be changed, but only if masses of working people abandon the rotten shipwreck of the 'leave it to us' reformers, and commit themselves to change from below.

This pamphlet puts our case. Will you read it?

Please send me . . . copies of **WHY YOU SHOULD BE A SOCIALIST** at

- One copy for 50p
- Five copies for £2
- One copy of the book, plus Socialist Worker each week for the next two months for £1.50.

Please tick appropriate box - all prices include postage.

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ADDRESS

I enclose £..... (cheques and postal orders made payable to SW Distributors please).
SEND THIS SLIP TO: SW Distributors, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

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chairman of the asbestos profiteers Turner and Newalls

and more of declining living standards, they won't frozen wages and for many people face crises of rising unemployment and rising poverty. For our rulers it will mean another year of banqueting at the Dorchester.

If anyone doubts that, show them the facts printed below, taken from PAYING FOR THE CRISIS, the report on the Social Contract by Counter Information Services.*

ND HOW!

According to the economist, this has become so blatant that the trouble is that British companies, many of which pay no corporation tax, will be seen not to pay corporation tax by trade unionists and politicians. Tax relief to companies granted by the Labour Government, has been

worth between £3 billion and £4 billion in the past three years.

Financial assistance from the government, through regional subsidies, special employment assistance and other schemes, has been worth another £6 billion over the past two years.

OW MUCH TAX DO COMPANIES PAY?

In 1976-7 the revenue taken in by the Government comes from the following sources:

- Personal income tax and National Insurance contributions: 46.8 per cent.
- Customs and excise: 26.9 per cent.
- Rates: 10 per cent.
- Miscellaneous, including employers' National Insurance contribution: 11.6 per cent.
- Taxes paid by companies on their profits: 3 per cent.

WHO ARE BEING FORCED TO PAY FOR IT

gross and living has risen by 77.8 per cent in the past three years.

Farm workers are among those who suffer most. The Agricultural Wages Board says that under the Social Contract

farmworkers should be paid a minimum of £39 for a 40-hour week and a maximum of £48.

The same day that the farm workers' Phase 1 agreement came in the rent of tied cottages rose

by £1.

At the start of the Social Contract, a student nurse received between £30 and £33.46 a week, and a state-registered nurse (SRN) received £40.79, rising over six years to £50.88.

Both received £6 under Phase 1 and a 5 per cent increase under Phase 2. Hostel charges for nurses rose from £138 to £222 in the same period.

Among other hospital workers, the three bottom

grades received between £30.00 and £31.08 at the start of the Social Contract. They now get the same, plus £6 and 5 per cent. In other words they are still well below £40 a week.



Labour's Chancellor, Denis Healey, toasts the CBI.

DEAD-BAR THE SHOUTING? YOU MUST BE JOKING

DEAD bar the shouting? Is that what's happened to the Social Contract?

There are some who think so. But they'd better watch out. There are two ideas the government and most of the trade union leaders are clinging on to that will make it far from easy to win demands that keep up with inflation.

One is the call for an 'orderly return' to free collective bargaining. By this they mean keep the 12-month limit on wage rises at all costs.

Prices go up every day. So if they can prevent us winning a new wage rise for at least one year after our last rise, then our living standards will go on falling.

The second idea they are hanging on to is that any new rise above a certain limit must be justified by productivity increases. In other words they want us to pay for any rise we get by doing the work that would otherwise be done by employing people off the dole.

Wage rises

At union conference after union conference this season, from the giant Engineering Union (AUEW), to the tiny Fire Brigades Union, resolutions have been passed opposing the continuation of wage controls. Yet these resolutions have not contained demands for immediate £15 wage rises—or any other specific sum.

Nor have they called for interim increases as soon as Phase Two ends in 31 July. And they haven't rejected the idea of productivity bargaining.

Finally, they haven't committed any of the unions involved to go-it-alone in case a deal does finally get stitched up at the end of July and at the September TUC.

The truth is that the Social Contract is still in limbo. The magnificent struggles of the Leyland toolroom workers, the Heathrow workers and the continuing fight at Port Talbot have not smashed through Phase Two.

So up and down the country workers are now looking towards the end of July and are submitting giant claims to try and defend their living standards against the 17.5 per cent—and rising—inflation we're facing.

Two important union conferences are still to come before the final stitch-up is attempted in July. They are the transport workers' (TGWU) and miners' (NUM).

Both are in the first week of July. Both will have a strong bearing on the outcome of future government-TUC talks.

Sell out

The right-wing in the NUM is anxious to get a productivity deal based on local pit output drawn up with the National Coal Board before conference. This would enable some miners to get a lot more money—and face more risks. It would also strengthen the hand of those arguing for a low basic rise for Phase 3 with a big loophole for genuine productivity deals.

The rank-and-file paper, The Collier, is mounting a campaign against such a sell-out.

Jack Jones of the TGWU is, above all, looking for a meaningless face-saver. He doesn't want his hands tied before the negotiations with Callaghan and Healey begin in earnest in July.

Supporters of the rank and file candidate in the recent general secretary election in the TGWU, Tommy Riley, are fighting to make it as difficult as possible for Jones—and Moss Evans, his successor—to walk all over the anti-Social Contract sentiment among TGWU members.

They are campaigning over the next month to gain signatures for a national TGWU petition* against the Social Contract. Delegates will then present this to the conference.

All trade unionists should play their part in laying the ghost of the Social Contract by submitting no new £15 across-the-board wage claims—to take effect as soon after 31 July as possible. And insist: No productivity deals, no 12-month agreements.

* Copies from 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

PAYING FOR THE CRISIS

A Counter-Information Services pamphlet on the effects of the Social Contract.

60p. plus 15p postage. Ten copies for £5

CIS, 9 Poland Street, London W1 (phone 01-439 3764).

BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Scotland

FALKIRK Socialist Workers Party meeting: Build a socialist alternative to the Labour Party. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Chair: Kenny Barker (TGWU). Thursday 16 June, 7.30pm, Temperance Cafe.

DUMFRIES Socialist Workers Party discussion group: Monday 30 May, 8.30pm, Nithsdale Hotel. Open to all SW readers and supporters.

CARLISLE SOCIALIST WORKER READERS: Why not contact Dumfries SWP with view to forming SW discussion group or a Carlisle branch of the SWP. Phone Terry, Dumfries 62406.

PAISLEY and CHRYSLER LINWOOD Socialist Workers Party meetings: Party weekly meetings on 'The Meaning of Marxism'. Fortnightly on Tuesdays, 7.30pm, Lang's Bar, Moss Street (NOTE CHANGE OF PLACE).

31 May: The Fight for the Right to Work. Speaker: Willie Dolan (secretary, Glasgow Right to Work Campaign).

14 June: The need for a revolutionary socialist party. Speaker: Dave Sherry.

GLASGOW WEST Socialist Workers Party weekly meetings on the Case for Socialism: Every Saturday, 2.30pm-4pm, Partick Burgh Halls.

28 May: Trade unions and the state.

4 June: The rank and file movement.

11 June: The revolutionary socialist party.

SOUTH CLYDESDALE Socialist Workers Party district day school: Saturday 28 May, Paisley Trades Council Club, Orr Square (off High Street), 11am-1pm: History of the SWP. 2pm-4pm: Building the party.

EDINBURGH Socialist Workers Party/Women's Voice discussion group on women's politics: Saturdays, 11.30am, Trades Council, 14 Picardy Place (top of Leith Walk).

28 May: Hidden from History—women and revolution.

4 June: Women—a raw deal on the NHS?

11 June: Breaking the chains—the split in the suffragette movement.

DUNDEE Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Is there a parliamentary road to socialism? Speaker: Alan Barclay. Wednesday 8 June, 7.30pm, Socialist Worker Bookshop, 128 Victoria Road.

EASTER ROSS Socialist Workers Party fund-raising dance: Friday 3 June, 8pm-1am, Balmagowan Hotel, Tain. Dance to Tumbleweeds. Late Licence.

Socialist Worker Youth Movement SCOTCH WEEKEND SCHOOL: 4/5 June at Stirling University. Sessions on Organising school students, Right to Work Campaign, Apprentices etc. Details from: 64 Queen Street, Glasgow. There will be facilities to watch the England-Scotland game.

FALKIRK Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Fight the Health cuts! Speaker: Anne Alden (nurse). Chair: Charlie Penn (TGWU). Tuesday 7 June, 7.30pm, Temperance Cafe.

North East

DURHAM Socialist Workers Party discussion meeting: World Crisis: A cassette recording by Nigel Harris. Thursday 2 June, 8pm, Colpitts Hotel, Sutton Street, Durham.

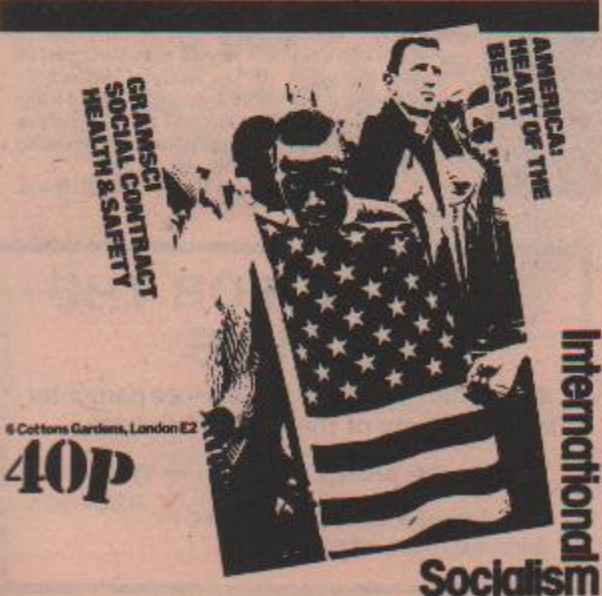
Yorkshire

BRADFORD CENTRAL Socialist Workers Party meets every Thursday, Textile Hall, Westgate. All welcome.

9 June: Racism, the new Nazis and how to fight them. Speaker: Geoff Robinson.

DONCASTER Socialist Workers Party Jubilee Celebration: Kids outing and picnic to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the death of George VI. Sunday 12 June, details from Rotherham 863179.

YORKSHIRE Socialist Workers Party HEALTH AND SAFETY MEETING to discuss, how health and safety ties in with our work as revolutionary socialists, how it ties in with rank and file trade union work, how we can create a network of specialists in the region, organisation of schools and other activities. Saturday 11 June, 11am, Leeds Trades Council Club, Saville Mount, Leeds. Pooled fare system. Details contact Derek Howl, 13 Cliff Mount, Leeds 6.



6 Cottons Gardens, London E2

40p

International Socialism

Socialist Worker public meetings

Send notices — to reach us first post Monday — to What's On, SW, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.



ISLINGTON Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Whose Law and Order? Speakers: John Deason (Right to Work Campaign), Peter Chappell (Free George Davis Campaign), Kim Gordon (Islington 18 Defence Committee). Wednesday 1 June, 8pm, North Library, Manor Gardens, London N7.

SOUTH EAST LONDON Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Law and Order. Speakers: Peter Chappell (Free George Davis Campaign) and John Deason (Right to Work Campaign). Thursday 2 June, 8pm, The Albany, Creek Road, Deptford, SE8.

Socialist Workers Party EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Saturday 28 May, 11am-5pm, Polytechnic of Central London

Shaun Doherty on BEING A SOCIALIST TEACHER
Paul Ashton on THE NEW BLACK PAPER
Workshops on HAVE STANDARDS FALLEN? WHAT IS COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION, and other PLUS

National meeting for all teachers in the SWP—supporters welcome. Sunday 29 May, 10.30am-4.30pm, Polytechnic of Central London.

DONCASTER Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Every Thursday, 8pm, Masons Arms (small upstairs room), Market Place.

MINERS FOR SOCIALISM: Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings for Yorkshire miners: Both at 7.30pm at the Devonshire Hotel, Barnsley (next to bus station).

Sunday 29 May Nationalisation and workers' control. Speaker: John Charlton.

HALIFAX Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Smash the Social Contract. Friday 27 May, 7.45pm, Room A, Harrison House, Harrison Road (next to police station).

BRADFORD CENTRAL Socialist Workers Party meets every Thursday, Textile Hall, Westgate, Bradford.

9 June: Racism, the new Nazis and how to fight them. Speaker: Geoff Robertson.

Humberside

SCUNTHORPE Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Thursday 2 June, 7.30pm, Community Centre, Lindum Street.

GRIMSBY Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speaker: Eddie Prevost (National Ports Shop Stewards Committee member, in personal capacity). Tuesday 21 June, St James House, St James Square.

HULL Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Smash the Social Contract! Speaker: Tony Cliff. Wednesday 1 June, 8pm, Room 8, YPL George Street. Admission 10p.

North West

LEYLAND, Lancashire, Socialist Workers Party branch meets every Friday, 8pm, Ealge and Child, Church Road. Anyone interested in finding out more about the SWP is welcome to come for discussion and a drink.

BOOTLE Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Social Con-trick or socialism? Why we need £15 a week extra now. Speakers: Eddie Prevost (TGWU steward, London Royal Group of Docks) and Paul Holborow. Thursday 26 May, 7.45pm, Walton Trades and Labour Club, Rice Lane, Walton. Admission 10p.

CHESHIRE and STOKE-ON-TRENT Socialist Workers Party district meeting: Sunday 29 May, 7.30am, Angel Hotel, Victoria Street, Crewe town centre. Pre-conference discussion, district organisation, local reports. Crewe, Stoke, Chester and Wrexham branches to attend. Members and close supporters in Stafford invited as observers.

CRUMPSALL Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Thursday 2 June, 8pm, Room A11, Abraham Moss Centre Open Forum—come along, ask questions and tell us what you think of us!

OLDHAM Socialist Workers Party Anti-Jubilee Social, North West Spenser and disco. Monday 6 June, 8pm, The Nelson pub, Union Street. Admission 35p (unemployed free). Bar.

Midlands

DUDLEY Socialist Workers Party social: North West Spenser Socialist theatre presents Cabaret Followed by Rock Band. Late bar. Saturday 28 May, 8pm, Earl of Dudley's Arms, Wellington Road, Dudley. Admission £1, double ticket £1.50, unemployed half price.

WILLENHALL and WALSALL Socialist Workers Party discussion meeting: What would replace capitalism? Tuesday 31 May, 8pm, The Falcon, Gomer Street, Willenhall.

STOKE-ON-TRENT: All interested in local socialist discussion meetings and/or helping local activities of the Socialist Workers Party, please contact Stoke SWP, c/o 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

LEICESTER Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist—the case for the Socialist Workers Party. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Wednesday 15 June, AUEW Hall, Vaughan Way.

BIRMINGHAM Socialist Worker public meeting: The Rich get the gravy—we get the Social Contract. Thursday 16 June, 7.30pm, Digbeth Hall.

MANFIELD Socialist Workers Party public meeting: The need for a socialist alternative. Speaker: Graham Naylor (NUM). Thursday 2 June, 8pm prompt, Red Lion (upstairs room), Bancroft Lane.

COVENTRY Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Fortnightly on Thursdays, 8pm, Elastic Inn. 2 June: The Communist Party. 15 June: The Labour Party.

CARDIFF Socialist Workers Supporters' discussion: Palestine. Wednesday 1 June, 7.30pm, SWP Bookshop, 58 Bridge Street.

PENARTH Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Lenin. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Tuesday 31 May, 7.30pm, The Plymouth (upstairs room), High Street, Penarth.

PORTUGAL TODAY—Socialist Workers Party international day school. Open to all. Sessions on the current situation, workers' organisations and the class struggle, the revolutionary left. Speakers: Pete Robinson, Joanna Rolie and Graham Seaman (convenor, SWP Portugal group). Sunday 19 June, 11am-5pm, Polytechnic of Central London.

WANDSWORTH Rock Against Racism social: With Red Rins and disco. Saturday 28 May, The Fountain, Garrett Lane, London SW17 (near Tooting Broadway tube). All proceeds to defend anti-fascist demonstrators arrested at Turnpike Lane. Admission 75p (unemployed 35p).

NORTH LONDON WOMENS VOICE GROUP public meeting: The Suffragette Movement—the lessons to be learned. Film: The Emancipation of Women. With a speaker and discussion afterwards.

NORTH Monday 13 June, 8pm, The Beehive Pub, (off Tottenham High Road, N17). Nearest tube: Seven Sisters. All welcome. (If you would like to come, and need a babysitter, please ring Di on 348 2041).

SOUTH Monday 20 June, 8pm, The Florence Pub, Florence Road, N1 (off Upper Street). All welcome. (If you would like to come, and need a babysitter, please ring Mandy on 607 8067).

SOUTH WEST LONDON WOMENS VOICE GROUP: Public meeting on prostitution. Tuesday 31 May, 8pm, Wheatshaf Pub (opposite Tooting Bec tube).

Action in the unions

LOWESTOFT Socialist Workers Party jumble sale: Saturday 28 May, 2.15pm, British Legion Hall, Clifton Road.

CAMBRIDGE Socialist Workers Party presents: Greece and Christian Greeks—a dramatic and revealing film: analysing Greek society from 1945 to 1972. Sunday 29 May, 8pm, Keynes Hall, Kings College. Admission 40p.

COLCHESTER Socialist Workers Party public meeting: CAST present Sam the Man, their hilarious 75-minute show about the Labour Party. Wednesday 1 June, 8pm, Recreation Hotel, Military Road, (near the Barracks).

CHELMSFORD Socialist Workers Party meet every Thursday, 8pm, at the Royal Steamer, Townfield Street (just behind Chelmsford station).

MAIDSTONE Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Racism—what it is and how to fight it. Monday 30 May, 8pm, Room 3, The Old Palace, Mill Street, Maidstone.

ESSEX Socialist Workers Party day school: Rank and file organisation—why we need it and how we can build it. Speakers include Duncan Hallas and Kevin Prior (AUEW shop steward, Heathrow Airport). Group discussions on women, docks, print engineers, public sector, buses, Ford's, firmen. Saturday 4 June, 10.45am-4.30pm in Chelmsford. Plus Anti-Jubilee Disco in evening. Details from Chelmsford 59129.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Socialist Workers Party ANTI-JUBILEE DISCO: Friday 18 June, 8pm-late, The Cellar, Old Town Hall, High Street. Disco, bar.

London

SOUTHWARK Socialist Workers Party public meetings: The Stirling Castle, Camberwell Church Street (near Camberwell Green), London SE5. All at 8pm.

HEATHROW AIRPORT Socialist Workers Party open meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speaker: Paul Foot. Wednesday 1 June, 7.45pm, Hounslow Civic Centre, Lampton Road (near Hounslow Central underground).

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM day school: Sessions on the theoretical tasks today and producing, selling and ISJ plus specialist workshops. Saturday 11 June, 10.15am to 5pm, Room 1.15, Polytechnic of Central London, New Cavendish Street, London WC1. All readers and contributors welcome. Registrations and inquiries to: ISJ, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN (phone 01-739 2639).

HAMMERSMITH AND KENSINGTON Socialist Workers Party discussion meeting: Whose Law and Order? Speaker: Pete Fysh (Right to Work marcher). Wednesday 8 June, 8pm, Hammersmith Town Hall, King Street.

HENDON Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Stuff the Jubilee! Kick out the Scroungers! Speakers: Paul Foot and Maggie Dunne. Thursday 2 June, 8pm, Upper Welsh Harp pub, West Hendon Broadway (near Staples Corner).

SWP Stuff the Jubilee WORKERS PICNIC: Monday 6 June, in Epping Forest. Meet at Chingford Station, 11am, for lifts to picnic site. If you're coming from further afield, phone Liz Balfour, 01-739 6273. Tickets £1 (unemployed 50p, kids free) from Anti-Jubilee Picnic, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

SOUTH EAST LONDON Socialist Workers Party public discussion: Sexual Politics. Speaker: David Widgey. Wednesday 1 June, 8pm, Charlton House, Hornfair Road, London SE7.



RAR Broadsheet now available. Temporary Hoarding around the slogan Love Music/Hate Racism. 10 copies for £1. Buy it and sell it. RAR T-Shirts. Yellow with red RAR symbol. State small medium or large (note: small is small!) £2 each (inc. post and packaging). RAR Badges 22p (inc. post) 10 for £1.50 post free.

Contact us through 6 Cottons Gardens London E2. All monies go into gigs and producing more propaganda.

MARXISM 77

Seven days of revolutionary socialist ideas and discussion at the Polytechnic of North London, Friday 1 July to Friday 8 July.

Just some of the things planned for the evenings throughout the week.

- Tony Cliff on The Russian Revolution
- Sam Gibson on Them and Us in Science
- Edmund Baluku on Workers' Struggle in Eastern Europe
- Marxism and Drama Today—a discussion led off by leading socialist playwrights, who include Trevor Griffiths (Bill Brandt), David Edgar (Destiny, Wreckers), Steve Gooch (Female Transport), Roland Muldoon (CAST)
- Films include the superb Battle for Chile (parts one and two), Chile: The Reckoning, Black Holiday, October, Battleship Potemkin.

Registration fee £5. Send to Marxism 77, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Organised by the National Organisation of International Socialist Societies.

DEPORTATIONS



PAMPHLET ON THE DEPORTATIONS out now in English, Greek and Turkish. 28p for one copy (postage included). £1 for 5 copies from Cypriot Defence Campaign, 90 Mountview Road, London N4.



NEW LEAFLET for Socialist Worker estate rounds, etc. Two colours, A5 size £3 per 1,000 from SW 'Circulation', 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Cash with order only.



STATE AND REVOLUTION

A 30-minute recorded cassette designed to introduce socialist discussion. Harry McShane, former secretary of the Scottish Unemployed Workers Movement, in the 1930s, gives a brief introduction to the problem of the state and revolution.

Marx said that to build socialism, workers would have to overthrow the capitalist state and set up their own workers' state. Why? How would it work? How can we avoid things going wrong, as in Russia? £1 including postage from SOCIALIST WORKER RECORDINGS, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

Send stamped, addressed envelope for full list.

BOOKMARKS

- The National Front—Martin Walker, £1.
- The Fight against the Racists—Socialist Worker, 10p.
- Fascism, What it is and how to fight it—Trotsky, 30p.
- The struggle against Fascism in Germany—Trotsky, £1.50.
- The Mass Psychology of Fascism—Reich, £1.
- You and the National Health Service—Teeling-Smith, 60p.
- Cutting the Welfare State (who profits?)—CIS, 45p.
- The Health Workers Almanack—Hospital Worker, 10p.
- Hospital Worker, 5p.
- Just Out
- Paying for the Crisis—CIS, 60p.
- The hard way up, autobiography of Hannah Mitchell suffragette and rebel—£1.75.
- The Tamarisk Tree, my quest for liberty and love—Dora Russell, £1.95.

Please add 10 per cent to all orders for postage.

our books are ammunition

The class way of life...and death

BANKERS, Stock-brokers, newspaper editors and other reasonable people abhor the taking of human life.

The Press is outraged, whether the blood spilled is that of a Spanish military thug shot by Basque nationalists, or a pensioner starved to death by striking hospital porters.

Yet these same moderate people—the rich—are murdering at random TWELVE babies every day in this country.

They do it by withholding the money needed to build, equip and staff modern maternity hospitals.

Reduced

If the standard of care in Britain could be raised to that in Holland or Scandinavia, the number of babies who die at birth or in the first month of life could be reduced from 19,000 to 11,000 a year (1971 figures).

The number born mentally or physically handicapped could be reduced by several thousand.

The same people whose concern for human life, so they say, leads them to support reactionary measures to make it more difficult for women to have abortions, are also supporting cuts in the maternity services of ten million pounds by 1980.

Part of the Social Contract is this plan to murder even more babies.

Found

Socialists who are hardened to the commonplace barbarities of capitalism may find this shocking and unbelievable—but the facts can be found in the pages of the most respected medical journals.

For every thousand unborn babies who come to within 12 weeks of birth, about 23 will die either before birth, during birth or in the first month of life. In 1954 the figure was 40.

Much of the improvement



A safe birth—but a baby is twice as likely to die in working-class Oldham than in middle-class Hampstead

is because of the better health of women; better fed, better housed, fitter and stronger. A lot of the improvement is because of modern technology.

'Natural childbirth' is a fashionable trend; its advantages in primitive people is probably wholly mythical.

Without modern technology, about one woman in 400 would probably die in childbirth, and perhaps one in ten babies would be lost.

For example, after birth, a baby who is not breathing at once can be resuscitated with oxygen, artificial respiration and intravenous fluids. A few years ago that baby just died.

Premature and sickly babies need incubators: the temperature of incubator and baby needs to be monitored continuously—with sophisticated electronics—as does the concentration of oxygen the baby breathes.

In 1950, the death rate for

Dr BILL FAKES ON WHY 12 BABIES ARE MURDERED DAILY IN BRITAIN

British babies was the lowest in the world.

All the industrialised countries have improved their standards, but Britain has lagged behind.

We now have a far worse rate than Holland and Sweden, and worse than France, Germany and Japan. The main reason is that these countries have spent more on maternity health care.

Show

Working class babies die most frequently. In 1960, the death rate of babies under one year old was between 30 and 33 per thousand births in Bootle, Merthyr Tydfil, Preston and Oldham. It was

17 or 18 in Oxford and Hampstead.

The Registrar General's figures show that babies of manual workers are about twice as likely to die as babies of doctors, lawyers or company directors.

In 1975, Salford, Oldham and Wakefield still had the highest infant mortality rates—more than double that of Somerset.

Working class women are the least healthy, yet they have the worst facilities. The doctor has a cramped, unattractive surgery; he is in a hurry, doesn't have time to answer questions.

At the hospital the working class woman often can't pluck up courage to ask the very upper class specialist

questions which are of vital importance to her.

Hospitals in Slagdon and Grindthorpe do not have proper modern facilities. An ultra-sonic scan means travelling 50 miles.

The specialist can only measure hormones in a few cases. The necessary skills for the best pain relief are absent.

The baby's heart rate during labour is measured by a nurse with an ear trumpet, instead of electronically.

Seldom

The British ruling class hides its murders behind statistics—the murdered babies can seldom be told from the ones whose deaths

were inevitable.

Yet the statistics hide countless individual tragedies: killing people's children scars them emotionally for life.

Maiming people's babies so that they are mentally or physically handicapped wrecks the lives of whole families.

It doesn't even make sense in the callous logic of capitalism. It costs between five and ten times as much to look after a handicapped child than to protect him or her from injury during birth.

This calculation inspired the French government six years ago to undertake a massive expansion of maternity care. They hope to have a return of between 500 and 1000 per cent on their 'investment'.

The lessons for the sort of society we will build under socialism are obvious.

THE ROYAL SHAM

By Nick Chapman

THE YEAR 1887 was not much different from 1977.

Britain and the world was suffering from the Great Depression, which brought disaster to thousands of farm labourers who fled to the United States and Canada in search of jobs.

There was also a Jubilee, used like today's to help distract working people from the chaos and suffering caused by the system.

But it was not all God Save the Queen and flag-waving.

Jubilee Mugs

In London and elsewhere, the working-class movement, especially the unemployed, campaigned enthusiastically against the 'supreme symbol of bourgeois sham and fraud'—Queen Victoria.

In Llanelli, mention of the monarch's name provoked loud boos and hisses. The Town Council of Neath would not pay the money for

the Jubilee celebrations. And on Jubilee Day in Bristol, socialists and trade unionists held an open-air meeting at which two anti-monarchy motions were passed with great fervour.

The London branch of the Socialist League handed out a leaflet which said: 'The discovery of gas,

electricity, steam-driven locomotives and machinery and the vast extension of commerce is all to be mixed up with the deification of a mean old woman who has had as much to do with inventions or art as the man in the moon'.

Frank Kitz, a member of the League, suggested that they send up balloons filled with socialist propaganda.

At this time, the socialist movement in this country was weak. Today, with a much stronger labour movement, we should follow the example of this handful of militants and stand firm in our opposition to the Jubilee and the type of society which spawns it.

STUFF THE JUBILEE!

In celebration of 25 years of arrogant rule by the richest monarch in the world, a set of eight ANTI-JUBILEE STICKERS. Not in solid silver, but printed in republican red and black.

Give your town these stickers, to make sure the Queen's jubilee is really memorable. £1.50 for 800 (100 of each design)—£2 if they are to be sent by post.

FROM Socialist Worker Recordings, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS.



SPOT THE SCROUNGER



ANTI-JUBILEE POSTERS: Red and black 30 for £1 (£1.50 if by post) or £3 for 100 (£4 if by post) from SW Recordings, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS.



ANTI-JUBILEE BADGES: Red and black 20p each, ten for £1.50, 50 for £7, 100 for £13, from Sherril Yanowitz, 116 Fortune Green Road, London NW6.

CASH WITH ALL ORDERS PLEASE

APOLOGIES for delays in sending out stickers. They have had to be reprinted four times. Another 100,000 reprint will clear the backlog this week.

Letters

TURKEY: BEHIND THE KILLINGS

YOUR article on the May Day massacre in Istanbul left out some important points—for we on the left know that it is never enough just to ask who pulled the trigger.

So although it is true that some Maoist groups in Turkey are crazy enough to spend all their time hunting down 'social fascists', they are not significant and almost certainly weren't to blame for what happened.

This does not mean that they don't share in a small way in the blame, however, because their activities in the past have, as you said, made them ideal vehicles for police and fascist infiltration.

The real problem faced by Turkish revolutionaries is the dead-end reformist policies being pursued by the Communist Party and its allies.

This policy of holding back the workers' movement, of leaving it unorganised and fragmented in the face of attacks from fascist gangs calling themselves the 'grey wolves', is just so that the main opposition party might win the general election on 5 June.

But this party is no left-wing one, its government sent the troops into Cyprus, its leader attends CIA-run international think-tanks.

We say it is dead-end because only an idiot could believe in the parliamentary road in a country with a long record of military intervention in the political scene, where security is shared between a fascist minister and another from a religious fanatics party! It is also a place where murders of militants by fascist gangs are put down as high-jinks by 'patriotic lads helping the police'.

In such circumstances it is still, unbelievably, the policy of the Communist Party and its friends to play it cool, to await what they call the 'higher democracy'.

It is to these also that a portion of the blame must go for the May Day killings—for it is they that marched over 200,000 workers into a square surrounded by high buildings ideal for sniper attacks, in the belief that 'security' is neutral.

□ KADIR, on behalf of Turkish supporters of SWP.

Jailed-for taking eleven salmon!

RECENTLY I had to come before the Dornoch Sherriff, Ewan Stewart, for not wearing a crash helmet. Because police evidence conflicted with mine, my solicitor advised me to plead not guilty.

As I am on the dole I asked to be allowed legal aid. Apparently it's left to the sheriff to grant this so a person can be represented in court. Stewart refused it.

BRITISH JUSTICE, DARTMOOR-STYLE

THERE has been much sympathetic drivel in the Tory press about the work-to-rule of Dartmoor prison officers in protest at the sub-standard housing many are being 'forced' to live in.

The papers have tried to paint a picture of decent, honest, dedicated men doing an unpleasant but necessary job in adverse conditions.

What they forgot to mention was that millions of people live in infinitely worse housing or have no home at all thanks to the profits-before-people capitalist system that those papers support.

The Dartmoor prison staff get high rates of pay—both in comparison with other wage earners and staff in other jails—not to mention clothing and rent allowances.

In truth, the staff at HMP Dartmoor are the dregs of the prison service. Not content with seeing human beings deprived of virtually every human right, they dispense

their own particular brand of 'justice' in addition.

A close friend of mine was unfortunate enough to be a prisoner there. Earlier in his sentence, at another prison, he had been acquitted of assaulting an officer. Assuming his guilt, up to ten of the Dartmoor staff beat him senseless within three hours of his arriving there.

To cover for themselves, they then charged him with assaulting two officers, though he never laid a hand on any of them.

He spent 125 days in solitary and lost 160 days remission. Despite his complaints the incident was given the proverbial whitewash.

This is the real Dartmoor, the one you don't read about in the papers.

Having said that, I think the Dartmoor Prison staff should be rehoused. Has anybody got 150 or so pig-stys to spare?

□ JOHN GREEN, Swindon.

My solicitor said Stewart had refused a lot of his clients legal aid recently. It will cost me about £100 to fight the case, which I cannot afford, so I now have to plead guilty—even although the solicitor thought I had a good chance of being found not guilty.

I wonder how many people in Sutherland are paying fines because Stewart wouldn't allow them legal aid?

Sheriff Stewart is building quite a reputation for his brand of justice. In October last year he fined a young joiner a staggering £500, plus confiscation of his car, for the measly crime of poaching 11 salmon (local value about £40).

According to the local paper, Stewart thinks there is too much commercial poaching going on. I suppose he thinks workers are not fit to eat salmon.

Jail

The joiner was earning £40 before stoppages, but Stewart didn't worry about that. He ordered the fine to be paid at £10 a week. The man couldn't afford to pay so he is now serving a prison sentence.

He now has a prison record for stealing 11 fish.

On the other hand Stewart clearly doesn't think there is too much commercial poaching of deer by famous local personalities. In February Marcus Munro Campbell, the British clay pigeon shooting champion, and seven of his farmer and business buddies were fined a total of £74 for shooting 20 deer valued at £1200. Marcus was fined £25.

My case comes up again next week. I suppose I should be grateful—Ewan Stewart can't sentence me to be hanged, can he?

□ MIKE DODD, Brora, Sutherland, Scotland.

Postal Points

PHILIP AGEE is being deported on 3 June, but one day, we hope soon, he will be back. Meanwhile, the work of others against abuses by the security authorities, against covert action and surveillance of people's political activity, will go on.

We are inviting all those supporters of the campaign against the deportations, and against the arrest of Crispin Aubrey, John Berry and Duncan Campbell, to a party. Date is 2 June. Time 7.30pm, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC2.

We will be launching a movement against security abuses.

Food, drink, music. Admission 50p, claimants 30p.

□ AGEE/HOSENBALL DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

VACANCY FOR NEW DUKE OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE—apply local Job Centre. Do not have to be landed gentry. Plenty of assets gobbled away from mining royalties.

□ E WAKEFIELD (NUM), Mansfield.

What, Mothercare?

DID my eyes deceive me?

On the abortion demonstration in London (14 May), as we marched down Oxford Street, a whole mass of coppers suddenly rushed down the pavement towards the head of the march. Sensing trouble, I decided to follow.

But what did we find? A whole line of police, side by side, in the doorway and on

the pavement outside (wait for it) Mothercare!

Had the chief inspector's brain been clicking? Abortion and demonstrators - dislike of babies? Did they really think we'd march in and destroy the shop in our obvious hatred of motherhood?

Explain please, Scotland Yard.

□ JON LUCAS, Bristol 6.

They spent three days in the prison. Two double-bunk beds were specially brought in for their comfort. As the prison is not as large as Irish or English jails, care must be taken that the women are separated from the men, for obvious reasons. There was a television set for the enjoyment of the young women in their own quarters.

As one of the allegations has already been disproved, I am now concerned about the veracity of the remainder of the letter, and I have to ask you to prove all the claims you are making. From my point of view, it would be a wholly irresponsible act to place facts before the people of Guernsey.

Finally, as an independent editor, I have to assure you that I am motivated solely by the desire to preserve the impartiality of this newspaper.

Part of the letter from the editor of the Guernsey Evening Press and Star

JUBILEE COMPETITION

How nice!
I see the local supermarket are doing a special Jubilee offer on loo rolls - remind me to send out the chambermaid..



ENCLOSED is a postcard we received from a publisher advertising a book entitled 'One hundred and forty four postcards of her Majesty the Queen and her family'. We have had a go at a caption (suggested by an actual offer at a local supermarket) but we challenge SW readers to do better.

A copy of the book advertised or a free quarter's sub to the Bookmarks Club for the best caption good enough to publish in SW. Entries to Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4 by jubilee day (7 June). □ FERGUS NICOL, Bookmarks.

Write to Letters, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent London E2

Close the Queen, not our centre!

THE QUEEN of Scroungers, Elizabeth Windsor, visits Stirling this week. It will cost the Central Regional Council quite a lot of money. She will see only the good parts, of course, nicely painted and cleaned up, and the new shopping centre.

In Stirling in the past three years there have been about 200 new shops built for every new council house. Now the council say they cannot build houses because there is no space!

The Raplock Information Centre is under sentence of closure because the council say they cannot spare the money to pay for it. The centre provides advice and help for many people in Raplock, one of the worst housing areas in Stirling, on social security problems, housing problems, legal advice and many other things that arise in areas of bad housing and unemployment.

The cost of keeping the Centre open for one year would be £2000. The cost of the Queen's visit is anyone's guess.

I think if people were given the choice, they'd choose something that will benefit them for a year and not just the chance to see if they can spot the scrounger for one brief moment.

□ DAVE BISIO, Stirling.

Oh, how we cheered...

As contribution towards your anti-jubilee 'celebrations' I enclose a song by local folk singer Pat Cooksey. It is his tribute to her Britannic Majesty on the anniversary of her accession to the throne.

Oh! how we all cheered on that wonderful day,
Such fun and rejoicing was seen.
When Princess Elizabeth sat on the throne,
And said that she'd be our new Queen.
She rode through the streets in her gold horse and cart,
The abbey choir sang fit to bust,
And we danced hand in hand as the colliery band
From their instruments blew out the rust.

There wasn't a dry eye in Burnley that night,
There was brown ale and nice things to eat,
All the kids in the street made a wonderful sight,
Waving union jacks and pigs feet.
The queen packed her suitcase and waving her hand,
It was easy to see she was pleased,
As the lads from the pit came home covered in dirt,
She went sailing off to the south seas.

Now twenty-five years have gone by since that day,
But still we remember with glee,
The time when Britannia still ruled the waves,

And still there were muffins for tea.
But now that our larder is full of thin mice
I expect it's the same at 'Buck House'.
We're not really surprised that you've asked for a rise
With the prices they're charging for grouse.

Oh! How we all cheered on that November day
And how we all joined in the fun,
When Captin Mark Philips, that dashing young blade,
Got wed to our fair princess one.
It was love at first sight, so the newspapers said,
She met him on Badminton's course.
And he asked for her hand, so it seems there's
one man,
Can tell Princess Anne from the horse.

So God bless your majesty, Long may you reign
Though you're costing us all a few bob.
We know it's no joke being upper crust folk
When you can't find your children a job.
So tell that Prince Philip to leave us alone
and his arms to stop waving about.
For it's easy to see that with more kids than me
How his finger he's been pulling out.

The above has been sung with gusto down at the Old Dyers Arms in Coventry for some months now. I think it is well worth printing. Keep up the fight!

□ MICK TEW (AUEW), Coventry

Facts? Sorry, but no

I WROTE to my local paper about the four girls who were 'trapped' by the army's 1984 computer when they arrived in Guernsey from Ireland in search of employment (SW, 23 April). I live in Guernsey and was at home when the incident happened.

I saw the biased press coverage and felt prompted to react when I saw the girls' case printed in Socialist Worker. I

wrote to the press purposely quoting the girls so no dispute could arise about the facts.

I enclose the editor's reply and draw your attention to the underlined sentence—he may not have meant to have said it but it's a clear indication of what was running through his head.

Keep on fighting.
□ WILLIAM MASON, Leamington.

DOWN THE ROAD
UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK
Sarah Cox and Robert Golden

DOWN THE ROAD— Unemployment and the Fight for the Right to Work. 132 pages of arguments, facts, poems and photographs. The authors are giving their 'royalties' to the Right to Work Campaign.

£1.50, plus 17p postage, from the Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

If a rat crawls up from a sewer, you don't get on your hands and knees and hold a discussion with it. You put the boot in...

LISTEN to these words:

'Mass demonstrations must burn into the little man's soul the proud conviction that, though a little worm, he is nevertheless part of a great dragon.'

That was Adolf Hitler.

Now read on:

'I believe that our great marches, with drums and flags and banners, have a hypnotic effect on the public...'

That was John Tyndall. Not much difference, is there?

Nor should there be, since Tyndall is chairman of the National Front, the leading Nazi in an organisation run by Nazis.

Tyndall's worship of Hitler and his party's bid to form a Nazi party in Britain—whatever they may publicly say to the contrary—is exposed in a book* published last week.

Useful

Called the National Front, it contains information useful to every socialist and trade unionist.

But on the only question that really matters about the National Front—how they can be first stopped and then destroyed—the book's author, Martin Walker, has little to teach us.

And yet he is clear enough that this is indeed a Hitlerite outfit. For example, Tyndall's writing is, he says, 'pure Nazism in that it reflects exactly the mood and spirit of Mein Kampf'.

Walker tells how, in 1974, pressure within the Front to lower the Nazi profile brought a hostile reaction from Tyndall. His response was to set up his Honour Guard of thugs.

'At the Remembrance Day Parade in November, Tyndall followed Roy Painter to the platform. As soon as he stepped forward, the 40 young men of the Honour Guard, those who carried



1934—and Communists and socialists are rounded up by the Nazis: Martin Walker should learn from such history.

the Union Jacks and had marched as a disciplined squad from the Cenotaph to the meeting, surged forward like some Praetorian Guard.

'The flags waved with their cheers and the stamping of their feet. It looked like some ancient comitatus welcoming the warrior chief.'

Thugs

Tyndall had mobilised the young thugs just in time. The new recruits from the Monday Club, the right wing pressure group in the Tory Party, were trying to drive him out. His Nazi background was too public for their liking.

But every time power struggles have developed inside the Front, Tyndall and his right hand man, Martin Webster, have fallen back on their Nazi philosophy to survive. Every time they have

succeeded.

As Tyndall wrote in his magazine, *Spearhead*: 'The day that our followers lose their ability to hate will be the day that they lose their power and their will to achieve anything worthwhile at all.'

Or again: 'People have been won over to our movement because they are... mainly stimulated by some mystical emotive power within us that compels allegiance, by an appeal to forces within the human character which defy rational analysis.'

JOHN ROSE REVIEWS A NEW BOOK ABOUT THE NATIONAL FRONT

But having correctly identified these animals as uncompromising Nazis, Martin Walker is partly taken in by them.

He comes out with this incredible statement: 'If the NF win a general election they are entitled to my respect.'

The German trade union leaders said much the same when Hitler came to power. Soon afterwards they were being marched off to the concentration camps.

Walker also tells us that the NF

have a right to hire halls for public meetings and generally to be allowed to spread their filthy ideas.

There is worse: 'I have been met with courtesy by a number of NF leaders. I have lunched, dined, drunk and talked into the small hours with some of them, and I cannot find it in my heart to call them 'Fascists'.

'When Martin Webster tells me of his fear of walking certain streets in towns of our country, I understand, I fear those streets too.'

While you're still swallowing on that last sentence, take a look at Walker's 'solution' to the Nazi threat:

'In fighting racism in the communities where people live, the burden is on the Constituency Labour Parties and upon the Labour Councils.' He adds, in almost direct contradiction, that these bodies seem ill-equipped for

such a task.

They certainly are. The response of the Labour Council to the upsurge of revulsion felt by young Indians in Southall after last summer's killing of Gurdeep Chagger was to sanction the surrounding of the town by police.

Sid Bidwell, Southall's 'Left wing' Labour MP, has stated that he thought his best bet during this period was to adopt a 'low profile'—that is, to keep out of the way.

The Constituency Labour Party in Southall issued not one leaflet against racism at that time.

Constituency Labour Parties and Labour Councils are ill-equipped to fight racism because the Labour Party is decaying. Its members are demoralised by Labour's performance, a performance which has fuelled the growth of the National Front and encouraged racialism.

This is not to say that the working class movement is without strength. On the contrary, it has the potential to smash fascism and install a society which will remove the economic and social roots of this revolting philosophy of despair.

But that strength doesn't lie in paper committees. It is to be found among rank and file workers in the factories and workshops.

Dockers

Even Walker shows this. He notes that the dockers marched for Enoch Powell in 1968 after their jobs had been run down by the Labour Government and their trade union organisation was shaky.

But he also notices that they did not get nearly so excited about the arrival of the Ugandan Asians. Now the dockers felt much stronger—they had defied the Tory laws and released their leaders from jail through strike action.

Many NF members are not Nazis. They can only be won away from the politics of despair by firm and uncompromising physical opposition to their movement and by the creation of an organised socialist alternative.

In Ford's, Dagenham, a non-Nazi NF member was sacked recently. The Socialist Workers' Party shop steward who everybody knew had again and again involved himself in battles with the Front organised a stoppage of work and a march around the section.

Many of the workers involved were black. The action forced management to reinstate the NF member. He left the NF shortly afterwards and has now become a socialist and an uncompromising opponent of racism.

Threat

Perhaps Martin Walker can go on sitting in the soggy centre commenting on the 'extremists'. But in the Thirties, when the chips were down and Oswald Mosley's British Union of Fascists, the forerunners of today's Nazis, became momentarily a real threat, all kinds of previously 'liberal' journalists and sycophants were scooped up by the Fascists' fanfare and razamataz.

And after all the Fascists, unlike the revolutionary left, had the cash to keep their new supporters living in the style to which they had become accustomed.

*The National Front, by Martin Walker, £1.20 (inc. postage) from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

How to halt the Nazis

Reprinted from the Socialist Worker pamphlet **The Fight Against the Racists—the National Front and How to Smash it**. Available, price 17p (inc. postage) from Pete Fysh, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

possibilities of them dismantling it or waits for public opinion to decide that it is dangerous for such people to be allowed to build such a deadly weapon. No, we stop them.

The real argument is about how to stop a growing fascist movement.

Of course with sympathisers or new members argument is vital. Many people join the National Front without realising it is a fascist group. With some of these people discussion is worthwhile.

But for the hardcore fascist members of the National Front only one argument is successful: physical force. People who join the National Front do so out of despair and frustration.

A fascist movement seems to offer a way forward, even an exciting one. It seems to offer an easy way out of present difficulties.

The more successful a fascist movement is in dominating the streets, in attacking socialist and

trade union organisations, in terrorising minority groups, the more it attracts support. The very dynamism of the movement seems to offer hope to new members.

Fascism feeds on its own success. Every parade is a sign of progress.

Tracks

Liberals and the Labour Party leadership argue that silent contempt is the best answer.

The Communist Party argues that peaceful pickets and protest marches together with pressure on the police to have the marches called off is the best way. Whilst agreeing that fascist marches should be stopped, it is generally opposed to physical force being used to stop the fascists in their tracks.

What a contrast to the Communist Party in Cable Street on 4th October 1936. Mosley's fascists had announced a march through East London's Jewish

quarter. Liberal protests to the Home Secretary failed. No peaceful counter march was organised.

Instead 300,000 people armed with milk bottles and stones assembled on the streets to block the way. The Labour and trade union leaders told people to stay away.

7,000 police mobilised to protect the fascists and repeatedly charged the blocked streets where barricades, trams abandoned by anti-fascist drivers and a quarter of a million workers hurling stones met them.

In Cable Street itself, several police actually surrendered. The police eventually ordered the fascists to withdraw and East End celebrations continued for hours.

This defeat was a severe blow to Mosley. His failure to control the streets demoralised his supporters. It cast doubts on his ability to deliver the goods to his financial backers.

The lessons should be clear. We cannot rely on the state to stop the fascists.

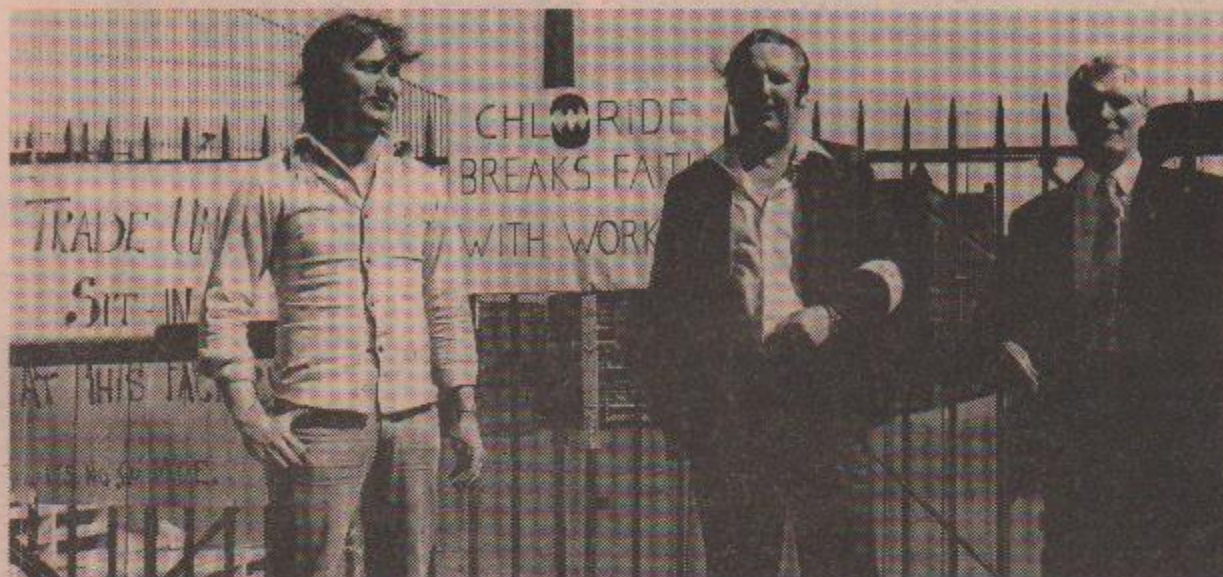
The fascists themselves are quite clear that the only way they can be stopped is for them to be nipped in the bud. It's about time the left was as clear.

TROTSKY ON FASCISM

The gigantic growth of national socialism is an expression of two factors: a deep social crisis, throwing the petty bourgeois masses off balance, and the lack of a revolutionary party that would be regarded by the masses of the people as an acknowledged revolutionary leader. If the revolutionary party is the Party of revolutionary hope, then Fascism, as a mass movement, is the party of counter-revolutionary despair.

—from Trotsky's masterly analysis of the rise of fascism in Germany and Italy. Available, price 40p (inc. postage) from ISJ, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

Chloride: The bosses have been chased



On the picket line at Chloride in Manchester, and inside the occupation at Dagenham. Workers from Dagenham (right) pursued management to the Post House Hotel in Brentwood. Pickets

**KELLOGGS:
1600
WALK OUT**

MANCHESTER: The big Kellogg's food factory at Trafford Park is at a standstill because of an unofficial strike by 1,600 members of USDAW.

During the night shift on Friday, management insisted that a worker operated a machine normally handled by staff on a higher grade.

When he refused, he was sent home without pay. The shift walked off the job and the rest of the factory followed.

A mass meeting on Monday agreed not to go back until the suspended man is paid for time lost and the strikers get a payment for the time they've been out on strike.

Hospital sit-in

BALHAM: Workers have been occupying the Weir Maternity Hospital since last Friday over proposed cuts in overtime and weekend working.

Next Wednesday there will be a mass lobby of the Area Health Authority.

Notices and meetings

Notices for this column must be posted to arrive by first post the Monday before publication. We cannot take them over the phone. Send CASH WITH COPY (10p a word) to Classified, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS. No invoices can be sent.

REMEMBER SOWETO! 16 June 1976. DEMONSTRATE on 16 June 1977. Assemble Speakers Corner, 1 pm. Rally Bullring 3pm. Called by National Union of Students, supported by the National Union of School Students and the Anti-Apartheid Movement. Contact NUS International Dept, 3 Endsleigh Street, London WC1 (phone 01-387-1277) for details and publicity material.

Socialist Medical Association Conference on THE FUTURE OF OUR DENTAL SERVICES: Saturday 28 May, 9.30am-5.30pm. Unity House, Euston Road, London NW1 (opposite Euston station). £3 fee. Details phone 01-455 9621.

BRITISH INVOLVEMENT IN IRELAND—and the consequences of a withdrawal: British Peace Committee Conference, weekend 28-29 May. Central London Polytechnic. Details from BPC, 84 Cleverton Street, London SW1 83AX.

THE OTHER CINEMA

25 TOTTENHAM STREET (at Charlotte St.) W.1 637-9308/9

A SENSE OF LOSS: Marcel Ophuls' staggering documentary on Northern Ireland—a film rejected by the BBC for being 'pro-Irish'. Friday 27 May—Thursday 2 June, 8.45pm.
I WAS, I AM, I WILL BE and THE TIGER POUNCED AND KILLED, BUT HE'LL DIE: Two powerful films on Chile. Sunday 29 May, 3pm, and Wednesday 1 June and Thursday 2 June, 5pm.

BOOST FOR TALBOT

PORT TALBOT: The striking electricians from BSC this week began picketing the Corporation's tinplate works at Trostre and Velindre.

These plants handle imported Dutch steel coils which manage-

ment are using to try and break the strike.

Morale had begun to sag as management, union leaders and press have tried to isolate the strikers.

Monday's action has now given confidence to the strikers, as they begin to take the offensive again.

They are determined not to return

empty-handed after such a lengthy strike.

But there is a danger that Executive member Bernard Clarke will break the strike when he addresses a mass meeting on Wednesday.

Electricians union general secretary Frank Chapple tried to get the strikers back to work two weeks ago without

the across-the-board rise they are demanding.

□ John Willock, secretary of the Llanelli Right to Work Committee, has been threatened with suspension for distributing leaflets in support of the Port Talbot electricians at the Trostre Tinplate plant, where he works.

NUPE: It's good—and bad

By Steve Ludlam, NUPE branch secretary, Moorfields and Bill Geddes, chairman, Hammersmith NUPE

DELEGATES at the public employees union (NUPE) Conference in Brighton gave a massive show of solidarity on Tuesday with workers occupying the Greenwich Reinforcement Steel plant in South London.

The conference voted unanimously to donate £6,500—1p per NUPE member—to the occupation fund and supported an emergency motion calling for the reinstatement of the six steel union (ISTC) members sacked for support-

ing the NUPE day of action.

The conference, representing the largest body of low-paid workers and victims of the cuts, gave NUPE leaders a free hand to support a stage three of the Social Contract.

It rejected 'any form of wage control' but supported national negotiations in line with a revised Social Contract, provided strict price control is enforced by the government.

At the same time, the conference voted to press 'immediately' for a package of pay demands including a 30 per cent increase in basic earnings.

General Secretary Alan Fisher was quick to point out that this conflicting policy did not mean hard line opposition to the Contrack.

The executive interpreted it as opposition to 'arbitrary

wage control imposed by the Government when there is no voluntary agreement,' he said.

The presence of 50 members outside the hall in support of the Hospital Worker lobby lifted the debate in the afternoon. They talked to delegates about the demand for £15 now and a return to free collective bargaining.

Fisher and the executive didn't have it all their own ways particularly when he tried to block discussion on holding conferences annually instead of every two years.

He was defeated and delegates voted in favour of the annual conference.

Every other proposal from the EC was then treated with suspicion and led to several defeats, including a conference vote in favour of issuing election addresses for candidates.

SOUTHALL'S BACK DOWN

BIRMINGHAM: Stewards at Southall's have been reinstated.

47 Pakistani workers forced management to climb down with two sit-down strikes.

The week before, 200 Asians had struck for the right to leave USDAW and join the TGWU.

35 drivers had won that right—but the Asians were told by the TGWU that they must return to USDAW.

When they returned to work last Wednesday, management sacked all five stewards.

Immediately the Asians occupied the canteen. Despite threats by management and the union to bring in the law, they occupied again the next day.

This time management backed down and agreed to pay the strikers for the previous three days.

The workers have announced a ban on overtime

until management pays them full back pay for the days they were on strike.

BIRMINGHAM: Two months ago, 116 drivers at Reed Corrugated Cases part of Reed International, occupied the factory over a claim for better sick pay.

They won—but then the union the TGWU argued that the strike had been caused by the company, and so the men should be paid for the two weeks they were out.

Mr Hullen, the managing director, refused, so the men have since been locked out.

The money the drivers are claiming would have come to

about £5,000, and they reckon the dispute has already cost the company half a million.

25 TRANSPORT drivers from Midlands Electrical Manufacturing, laid off for two weeks in April through a strike, have been out for five weeks for lay-off pay.

Drivers at all the MEM plants in Birmingham, Holyhead, Washington and Redditch are on strike.

The strikers are expecting the main factory in Birmingham to be laid off by the end of the week.

The other factories have already been laid off

HOLIDAY HALL: IT'S OVER

SHEFFIELD: 80 sparks employed by Holiday Hall on the giant BSC site ended a five-month dispute this week.

For months, sparks have been negotiating a condition payment for working at extreme heights or in waterlogged tunnels.

This payment was already made to other contractors on the site, but the sparks were working under the stranglehold of the JIB (Joint Industrial Board), which bars such payments.

Eventually a settlement has been reached for £158 bonus, to be paid at the end of the job.

Many members of the shop are extremely dissatisfied with this, knowing that the Dinnington sparks in Sheffield

had shown that a lot more could be achieved.

The settlement shows the need for a united campaign against the JIB in the contracting industry.

That is why many sparks at Holiday Hall and throughout Sheffield will be attending the rank and file EETPU contact JIB Conference on Saturday.

Rank and File Contact Conference Against the JIB

Saturday 28 May, Memorial Hall, Sheffield.
Chairman: Billy Williams, (Cardiff EETPU).
Leaflets and further details from 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

**TYNDALE
TEACHERS:
NOW IT'S
UP TO US**

THE EXECUTIVE of the teachers' union, the NUT, has refused to give any support to the sacked Tyndale teachers.

Despite calls for strike action from several Associations, they followed former NUT President Max Morris' advice. 'Let's sink them, let's forget them, throw out this rubbish.'

Not content with this abuse of teachers who were sacked for going on strike, general secretary Fred Jarvis threatened to suspend 30 leading militant school reps and officers of Associations for signing a letter calling for strike action to defend the Tyndale teachers.

Campaign

A meeting attended by 60 school reps decided last Thursday to launch a campaign that would build for unofficial strike action later this term.

Many schools had already met and supported strike action.

We need a massive propaganda campaign in the schools to add to this number. We urge all trade unionists to:

□ SEND resolutions condemning the sackings to ILEA County Hall SE1 and to the NUT Executive, Hamilton House Mabledon Pl. London WC1

□ SEND money to 32 Clifton Court London N4. The teachers have been suspended without pay since 1 May.

□ GET signatures for the petition against the sackings available from the above address.

**CPSA: No
sell-out on
Gibraltar!**

THE ONE-DAY strike called by the executive of the civil service union CPSA for this Thursday has been called off.

The Ministry of Defence have made an offer of £300 a year to clerical officers in Gibraltar. They were locked out last October for pursuing a claim which would bring their wages in line with Gibraltar government employees.

But £300 is peanuts compared with the cost of living in Gibraltar.

Executive and higher executive officers flying out from the UK get inner London weighting.

UPW say Yes

By Dave Percial, UPW

A STAGE Three of the Social Contract was accepted by last week's Post Office Workers conference.

Conference insisted that any further deal must include threshold payments.

Interestingly, general secretary Tom Jackson argued against this on the grounds that it would cost too much, which is surprising because he had earlier said that inflation would fall quickly during this year.

PICKETS ATTACKED

BLACKPOOL: Laings are desperate to get concrete to the few scabs still crossing the picket line at their Water Treatment Plant Site.

TGWU drivers from Topmix Concrete have boycotted the site but are still obliged to make deliveries if there are no pickets.

So the strikers now picket at evenings and weekends.

On Friday morning, two pickets were carried down the lane on a bonnet of a management car that drove straight at the picket line.

Meanwhile the Department of Employment which does not pay the sacked strikers unemployment benefit on the grounds that they are still in dispute, has no difficulty in finding some of them jobs which will take them away from the picket line.

The workers at Garstangs

want a collective bonus and a 40-hour week.

□ Messages of support and donations, which are now urgently needed, should be sent to: J Harrison, Convenor, c/o 10 Belmont Avenue, Blackpool, Lancs.

No sweat

WALSALL: Workers at Perkins, a small sweat shop, have been on strike for seven weeks for union recognition.

Wages and conditions are appalling. But when the workers began to organise, management retaliated by sacking the leading militant.

The strikers have joined the AUEW and they are demanding recognition and reinstatement for the sacked man.

out...and they're still on the run



cheered when the bosses were asked to leave by the Post House management.

CONVENORS at Chloride Batteries had a special Sunday lunch this week—in the boardroom.

But they weren't there by invitation of the management. The 1000 workers at the Dagenham plant have occupied the factory in defence of their right to negotiate money and conditions. The Manchester plant is also occupied. Another 1,000 workers at Chloride plants throughout the country are also on strike against management's attempt to impose a new productivity agreement without union negotiations. 'They are trying to reduce our involvement to consultation, not negotiation,' said Bob Wheatley, TGWU hourly paid convenor. 'We haven't had a dispute in years. Now they are trying

PICTURES by John Sturrock (Report)

to impose what amounts to a £4 wage cut on us. Workers are out at depots in Cannock, Leeds, Bristol, Glasgow and Wembley. In the past, the annual claim has been settled by negotiations. This year the management have tried to impose a new pension scheme and a new productivity agreement. They have also gone back on a previous agreement about the siting of a new production plant. 'The Social Contract has already made a mockery of our negotiations,' said Bob Wheatley. George Shaw, ACTSS convenor, said: 'In the past we've been parochial and isolated in our outlook, but since this dispute began we've had a meeting of convenors throughout the Chloride combine. 'When this is over, we have got to harness that and have regular meetings so that where disputes arise in future, we know about it from the word go.

Impose

The strength of Chloride workers lies in their 100 per cent union membership. Toolmaker and trades convenor Derek Hipsey said: 'We want to keep that strength so that when and if there is a return to free collective bargaining, we can use it to win back the money we've lost in the last three years. 'But another round of the Social Contract won't help especially if it includes differentials. 'In the past, people have been content with a decent wage regardless of what anyone else gets. Now skilled people are seeing this crack of light. 'It isn't differentials they want, it's more money. But if the TUC comes up with a differentials clause it is going to drive a wedge between working people. Said Bob Wheatley: 'There's only one differential it seems to me—the difference between wage increases and price increases.' Send donations and messages of support to: Chloride strike fund, Chloride, Chequers Lane, Dagenham, Essex.

KETTERING VICTORY!

'NOW LET'S WIN GRUNWICKS'

By Ian Reinecke
chairman, NUJ lock-out committee

KETTERING: Six months of struggle, during which we trusted no-one but ourselves and rank and file members in provincial journalism, has paid off in victory for trade union organisation at the Northants Evening Telegraph.

Nine scabs are now back in the National Union of Journalists, where they will stay unless they want another dispute in September.

It has been a colossal task to win this dispute. During the bitter winter months, we suffered many setbacks. Only when we were able to take our battle to the NUJ rank and file at Conference was there a dramatic shift in our favour.

Time after time the union's executive failed to call out East Midland Allied Press NUJ chapels, claiming they wouldn't come.

Less than 24 hours after Annual Conference decided to order them to stop work, they were out.

On 5/6 May, all but a tiny minority of provincial journalists were out on strike in support of us.

Popping

Within days, 'peace formulas' started popping up everywhere, first from Clement Freud MP, then from Bill Keys, general secretary of the printworkers union SOGAT.

The Keys settlement has now given us everything we asked for.

The lessons of this dispute have been drummed into us. First essential was strong local organisation—a strike meeting was held every day and despite setbacks we always know where we were going.

Hard though it's been, our 24 weeks has not been as bad as the 40 tough weeks during which our brothers and sisters at Grunwicks have fought for union recognition.

A delegation from our lockout committee was appalled at the harassment from police when money was taken to Grunwicks. It is now our task to help win this dispute.

Campaign

We have asked the Grunwicks Strike Committee to allow us jointly to sponsor a rank and file delegate conference in the next few weeks under the banner of 'Defend trade unionism'.

The rank and file won our dispute, the rank and file must win Grunwicks by building a massive campaign in the trade union movement to isolate and smash the nasty little bully boys who own the company.

Victory celebrations at Kettering take place on Friday, 3 June, at the Royal Hotel, beginning at 8pm. Proceeds go to Grunwicks.

All of the many trade unionists who have helped to win our dispute are welcome.



Pickets at Desoutters (see below) joined this week by fellow-strikers from Grunwicks.

DESOUTTERS BOOST

HENDON: A wave of support is building up for the 230 Engineering Union members on strike for union recognition at Desoutters.

Immediate boycott of Desoutters tools has been imposed at General Motors and CAV Hendon, as well as other major engineering works in North West London, and by maintenance engineers at Heathrow Airport.

800 WALK OUT AT EEV

CHELMSFORD: 800 members of the Engineering Union walked out at English Electric Valves last Thursday in protest at management's stubborn attitude to internal affairs.

And the shop stewards' negotiating committee called for an extraordinary meeting to discuss action over references which management have so far ignored, even though they are breaking the national agreement in doing so.

The references include the

By Barry Moroney,
AUEW shop steward,
Desoutters, Hendon.

A deputation of Desoutter strikers attended an AUEW shop stewards meeting at the Airport on Friday and a detailed list of Desoutter freight was passed to TGWU stewards to ensure that all export outlets are blocked. The strike began two weeks ago when a woman capstan

By AUEW members,
English Electric

question of a full-time convenor, 100 per cent union membership and time allowed for meetings.

We can't even see the safety officer over new legislation concerning the setting up of a union/management safety committee.

At a recent meeting, the shop stewards asked if they could use the works canteen

operator was moved between jobs without proper consultation.

When management refused to see out stewards, the dispute became centred on the demand for union recognition.

Strike action was endorsed by the AUEW London North District Committee last Wednesday.

Desoutters is one of the most important engineering firms in North West London

still to refuse recognition. Victory there is crucial for the engineering union. With similar attempts to impose flexibility at Racal BCC and GEC's Associated Automation, many stewards fear that employers have chosen to launch an early offensive against shop stewards' organisation in the area before the next round of wage bargaining.

North West London Engineers Charter has called a special meeting to organise solidarity around these disputes. It will be held on Thursday 26 May, 7pm, at the Upper Welsh Harp, Edgware Road in West Hendon. Speakers include: Fred Hooper, AUEW Convenor Desoutters, Glyn Woods, AUEW Convenor Racal BCC, Susan Dunne, APEX Strike Committee Grunwicks, John Deason, Secretary National Right to Work Campaign.

Messages of support and donations to: AUEW Shop Stewards Committee, c/o Dennis Norville, 24 Cotmans Gardens, Edgware, Middlesex. £178 million hand-out.

By the AUEW shop stewards committee,
Racal BCC

WEMBLEY: Racal BCC management have suspended Bro Keith Keegan for declining to accept their dictates, which fly in the face of agreed procedure.

They insist on ignoring the job requirements of a leading hand and instructed him to carry out production operations previously carried out by operators.

The shop stewards committee recommended that membership down tools.

After several negotiations, the position remained deadlocked.

Management insist the operator returns to normal work under their instructions.

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Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

GRUNWICKS: JOIN THIS VITAL MASS PICKET

JOIN this vital mass picket—that is the appeal from the Grunwicks strike committee to every trade unionist.

The strike committee has called it for Monday 13 June at 7.15am to stop the scabs once and for all. For 41 weeks, the workers at

Monday 13 June, 7.15am *(Dollis Hill Underground)*

Grunwicks, many of whom are Asian, have been on strike for trade union recognition. Organise now to: GET official delegations from trade union branches and shop stewards committees. Bring trade

union banners. ARRANGE cars and minibuses and coaches from all parts of London, the Midlands and the South. Make sure you and sympathisers you work with are on the picket line.



Enough to make you want to throw up: APEX-sponsored Labour MPs on the Grunwicks picket line this week. It took Laurie Pavitt, Fred Mulley, Shirley Williams and Dennis Howell 41 weeks to get there—and they stayed just long enough to have their picture taken.

£6,500 boost for workers spied on by Special Branch

By Paul Lutener, ISTC Staff Rep, Greenwich Reinforcements

GREENWICH: Our occupation was given a fantastic boost this week when the NUPE Conference voted to give £6,500 to our fund.

Thanks to the hard work of Hospital Worker supporters, the conference has called for our reinstatement and asked the executive to give us all the support they can—starting with the money.

Six of our members at Greenwich Reinforcement Steel Services—part of BSC—were singled out and sacked for going on a demonstration against the cuts with local hospital workers.

We later found company files which showed that Special Branch had given the company information about

my political activities and had contacted the right-wing Economic League for information about some of our members.

The occupation is still strong. This Friday, every major dock in the country is being leafleted by the Right to Work Campaign exposing the BSC discrimination against employing dockworkers.

When the National Port Shop Stewards Committee meets on Saturday we will be asking for a national boycott of all British Steel products. This will also help the Port Talbot strikers.

Action

The National Right to Work Campaign call on all local committees to leaflet any docks in their area.

London Right to Work committees should organise workplace tours for delegations from the occupation.

Trade union bodies should send resolutions to the Home Office, the TUC, and trade union executives deploring the use of the Special Branch and the Economic League.

Donations and messages of support to: Greenwich Reinforcements Occupation Committee, 90 River Way, Greenwich, London SE10.

LAIRD PORTCH: WE CAN WIN!

By Johnny Miller

COATS Paton, the giant clothing group, had some good news and some bad news last week.

The good news—profits doubled over the last 12 months from £36½ million to just under £73 million.

The bad news—the 600 strikers at their Laird Porch factory in East Kilbride have stepped up their fight for equal pay.

Socialist Worker and Womens Voice supporters



Stickers (50p for three sheets of 12) and collection sheets to raise financial support for the Laird Porch strikers are available from Womens Voice, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Money with orders please.

organised pickets last Saturday in support of the strikers outside another set of Coats Paton subsidiaries—the chain of posh clothing shops called Jaeger.

160 workers from two

Kilmarnock factories in the same combine who walked out in support three weeks ago are still on strike.

Management are getting full backing from the Clothing Manufacturers Federation.

So it's up to every trade unionist to make sure the labour movement stands shoulder to shoulder with the women at East Kilbride and Kilmarnock.

Every Socialist Worker supporter should raise money in their workplace.

Support for the strike should be raised on every shop stewards committee, trade union branch and trades council.

Last week the women received a letter from the company seeking to blackmail them into returning to work.

Needless to say, it failed. Ellen Nicklin, convenor at

East Kilbride, said: 'I received mine in the same mail as ten different letters with messages of support and money from Womens Voice groups up and down the country.'

She added: 'If we win this one, the effect will be felt throughout the clothing industry, where wages for women are lousy. That's why management are so afraid.'

The women are receiving no support from their union, the Tailor and Garment Workers.

Raise money for the strike. Send it, with messages of support to Ellen Nicklin, 153 Leeward Circle, Westwood, East Kilbride, Glasgow.

Join this Saturday's picket of Jaegers organised by Womens Voice and the Right To Work Campaign at Oxford Circus in London, 10.30am.

Why my union should be there

By Dave Percival, chairman, Croydon UPW

THE Grunwicks Picket must have the support of every decent Post Office worker in the London area.

This is now the only way we can break this firm. Last week, our union put the final nail in the coffin of any chance of the official side of the trade union movement coming to the aid of the strikers.

When faced with a resolution at last week's UPW Conference calling for the re-introduction of the blacking of Grunwicks, General Secretary Tom Jackson showed us just what a hypocrite he is.

Strike

He told delegates that he was not frightened of going to prison for defying the law, but all the funds of the union would be put at risk.

Despite this threat, about 40 per cent of the delegates voted in favour.

Even worse was to follow. The executive opposed a motion calling for collective action through the TUC about Grunwicks on the grounds that the union had been told by lawyers that they could not even take part in a picket.

When it was put to the vote, the chairman said it was not carried, but when delegates demanded a card vote it was carried by 8,000 to 5,000.

AN SWP CANDIDATE

SIR ARTHUR Irvine, notorious Labour MP for Edgell in Liverpool, has announced some good news: he may quit.

If there is a by-election, the Socialist Workers Party will stand a candidate to argue the case for a socialist alternative.

TGWU surrender to Trust Houses

BIRMINGHAM: The Transport Union have called off the blacking of Trust House Forte motorway service stations and the weekly mass picket of the Night Out theatre club.

Workers have been picketing Night Out daily since being sacked three months ago after joining the TGWU.

For weeks the TGWU took

no action. General Secretary Jack Jones, explained that to organise national blacking of Trust House Forte would be illegal.

He was not prepared to use the strength of the TGWU to bring trade unionism to low paid catering and hotel workers.

Finally the Midlands

Region of the union came to the aid of the strikers and started blacking Trust House Forte's motorway service stations.

This led to savage press attacks on the full time regional secretary, Alan Law, full page advertisements in national newspapers by Trust

House Forte, and threats of court injunctions to stop the picketing.

After these threats, the Midlands Region ended the blacking and the weekly mass picket. Instead they are waiting while the government's arbitration and conciliation service, ACAS, reports on the dispute.

But the picketing forced Trust House Forte to make concessions.

Another week and there would have been no need for ACAS to interfere because THF would have given up rather than see their motorway service stations shut down.

DEFEAT AT RANDOLPH

OXFORD: The five-month-old strike for union recognition at the Randolph Hotel is now over.

Shop steward Margaret Radbourne told Socialist Worker how TGWU District Secretary Geoff Hulett called the strikers to a meeting last week and railroaded them into accepting a deal.

The strikers were offered between £250-£500 to call off the strike and join the ranks of the unemployed.

'We were told that if we did not accept this the strike would be completely unofficial. We would not even be allowed to use the name TGWU.'

The strikers were not even given the opportunity to meet to consider the offer. 'We had been called out on strike by the union and all that they could offer us after five months was the sack' said Margaret.

'If there had been a national blacking, the strike would have been over in a fortnight.'

GROSVENOR FIGHT ON

SHEFFIELD: The strikers at the Grosvenor House Hotel, sacked when they joined the TGWU before Christmas, are staying out.

After nearly six months on the picket line, they desperately need financial support.

Resolutions of support, assistance on the picket line, and collections from all over the country are vital to keep this strike going until Trust House Forte are forced to back down.

Send to Grosvenor House Hotel Strike Committee, c/o Trevor Jones, Transport House, Hartshead, Sheffield.

SHEFFIELD—mass picket at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Noon.28 May

LONDON—solidarity picket with Birmingham and Sheffield strikers of the Talk of the Town, 7.30pm, Saturday 28 May, called by the Right to Work Campaign.

JOIN THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

Name
 Address
 Trade union

Please send me more information

Send to: National Secretary, Socialist Workers Party, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 6DA.